



NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Guardians and Grandparents,

Well the end of term has arrived and the weather has certainly done its bit to remind us that Christmas is coming. This final week has flown by and I have been particularly impressed by the way the whole school community has continued to drive towards the finish line, in spite of some pretty ghastly coughs, colds and all manner of other bugs. It feels very much like the arrival of the holidays is perfectly timed.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the multitude of Christmassy events this past week and with each day the festive spirit has grown stronger. The boarders had a wonderful weekend of trips finishing with a delicious Boarders' Christmas Supper. The Pre-Prep held a lovely Carol Service in St John's Church Glastonbury on Monday which filled everyone with Christmas cheer. There were Christingles galore on Tuesday, a sumptuous Christmas lunch on Wednesday, followed by the most wonderful Pre-Prep Nativity that afternoon. I have probably seen 20 of these in my career

and, despite the storyline obviously never changing, each one is always guaranteed to look and feel different. Our youngest members can be very proud of their own take on the Christmas Story...I'm not sure that in Bethlehem all those years ago the baby Jesus was fed hay by his mother Mary, but in the MPS version he most certainly was!

Thursday saw the superb House Swimming Gala at the Senior School. This was naturally my first experience of the event and I can honestly say I was blown away by both the standard and the atmosphere. There cannot be many Prep schools in the world who can host an internal event of that quality or scale. I was very proud of everyone who took part and who helped make it happen – well done all! And today, we saw the culmination of our term at Wells Cathedral with an amazing Carol Service. After hearing the choirs rehearsing yesterday, I was still in awe at their exceptional voices, which contributed to a special event. It also signified for me, the completion of my first full year at the helm here. The past few weeks have brilliantly rounded off a very successful term – I honestly could not be more proud of the pupils and staff for all they have achieved over the past 12 weeks.

In my final assembly on Monday, I urged the pupils to ask themselves three questions this Christmastide: what can I give to others, what can I share with others and how can I make others happier? I do hope you see evidence this holiday of your children delivering on those questions – please do remind them of my questions and help them see what they can do for others.

Have a fantastic holiday wherever you may be spending it and for those I missed at the service earlier today, I hope you have a Merry Christmas.

Yours,

Dan

CONTENTS

Page 2

Carol Service

Page 3

Health Notices

Page 4

Christmas Jumpers

Page 5

Christingle Services

Page 6-7

Academic Update

Page 8

DT

Page 9

Monday Clubs

Page 10

The Bayeux Tapestry

Page 11 - 14

Boarding Life

Page 15 - 19

Sporting News

Page 20 - 27

Pre-Prep Newsletter

Page 28

Minis Update



YEAR 8 PARENTS

If any parents would like to request a **September 2023** Year 9 change from day to boarding (or from boarding to day), the Senior School Admissions team would be grateful to receive these by **3 January 2023**. After this date, any changes would be subject to there being spaces available. Please email admissions@millfieldschool.com

CAROL SERVICE

Thank you to everyone who joined us at Wells Cathedral this afternoon for our Carol Service. It was an amazing service, with our pupils singing and reading beautifully.



MENTAL HEALTH

Schools across the UK have seen a rise in mental health issues over the last few years, and Millfield is no exception. Recognising when something appears not quite right with a young person can help to prevent situations escalating into something more serious, for example a low mood becoming depression.

We try to encourage all students to think about their mental health as much as their physical health. We want them to understand it's normal to feel anxious, stressed, sad, and angry sometimes and to help them find ways to cope with everyday life. We regularly signpost them to websites with tips and advice. For information on how parents can support their children with their mental health, please visit [Young Minds](#).

As parents it can be very distressing to learn that your child is not coping with life and has turned to negative coping strategies like self-harm and restricting their food intake. It's not always easy to talk to young people about how they are feeling, but [this link](#) might help with providing some useful tips on how to start conversations about mental health.

ILLNESS

In addition to the usual winter coughs and colds, the UK has seen a rise in cases of Strep A and Scarlet Fever recently. Most cases are mild, but occasionally it can progress to a serious and even life-threatening infection.

We are mindful of the need to continue to protect our community from illness. Therefore, should your child be ill during the break, we would kindly ask that you keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school and/or are no longer contagious.

Please find below useful guidance:

- [Strep Throat \(for Parents\) - Nemours KidsHealth](#)
- [HPS Website - Group A streptococcal infections \(scot.nhs.uk\) Guidance for Scotland](#)

SCARLET FEVER

Scarlet Fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious. Please contact NHS 111 or your GP if you suspect your child has Scarlet Fever, early treatment with antibiotics is important to reduce the risk of complications such as pneumonia or a bloodstream infection. If your child has Scarlet Fever, keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

Please find below useful guidance:

- [Scarlet Fever - NHS](#)

UK Health Security Agency

#GroupAStrep

Group A Strep (GAS)

GAS is a common bacteria which causes a range of infections including scarlet fever. These infections are usually mild.

Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)

It can also cause a rare, more serious infection called Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS). This occurs when GAS bacteria gets into parts of the body where it causes serious disease, like the lungs or bloodstream.

UK Health Security Agency

#GroupAStrep

Group A Strep (GAS)

Parents should trust their judgement when their child is poorly. Speak to your GP or call 111 if your child is poorly and getting worse.

Always call 999 or go to A&E if your child:

- ▶ Is having difficulty breathing - such as grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- ▶ there are pauses when your child breathes
- ▶ child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- ▶ is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.

UK Health Security Agency

#GroupAStrep

Group A Strep (GAS)

Cases of Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS) are rare. Some current cases are presenting with sepsis-like symptoms.

Be aware of important sepsis symptoms:

- ▶ Blue, pale or blotchy skin, lips or tongue - on darker skin, check for blueness on the lips, tongue or gums, under the nails or around the eyes
- ▶ rash that doesn't fade when you roll a glass over it
- ▶ difficulty breathing
- ▶ weak, high-pitched cry - not like their normal cry
- ▶ not responding like normal, not interested in feeding or normal activities
- ▶ being sleepier than normal or difficult to wake.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Well done to everyone for wearing such amazing Christmas jumpers! Below are some colourful photos from the day.



CHRISTINGLE SERVICES

5

Millfield Prep pupils have been enjoying their annual Christingle Service! The pupils were getting into the Christmas spirit by singing festive songs and lighting their Christingles.



THE OWLET

The Owlet returns and the first issue for this academic year is now here! Find out what resources our teachers are using and learn more about the creative methods being incorporated in and out of the classroom. View the [Owlet here](#).



PICTURE OF THE WEEK

6

This week's Picture of the Week is this excellent painting by **Lucia M M**.



JUNIOR AWARDS

This week Miffy and Chota are going home with **Joy X** and **Noah K**. Both children have been very kind in supporting their friends when they have needed help this week, without being asked to by a member of staff. Great initiative and kindness! Well done to both of you!



MUSIC AT MILLFIELD

7

Over the past term, selected musicians from the prep school have been rehearsing alongside senior school students as part of the Sinfonietta (a training orchestra run by the Director of Music at the Senior School, Kirsty Barry) and the Millfield Orchestra (conducted by the Head of Strings at the Senior School Clive Hughes). The pupils involved have thoroughly enjoyed the experience and on Monday 5 December they were invited to participate in the Music at Millfield concert to showcase the pieces they have been learning. Sinfonietta gave wonderful performances of *Tortoises* by Camille Saint-Seans, 'La Morisque' and 'Pavane La Bataille' by Tylman Susato demonstrating a lovely sense of ensemble and musicality and the Millfield Orchestra were superb as the final item in the concert, performing 'Grand Pas de Deux' from *The Nutcracker Suite* by Tchaikovsky. It was fantastic to see our pupils performing with such confidence and poise alongside Senior School students and staff and they can be hugely proud of all that they have achieved this term. Well done to the following:

Sinfonietta

Amelia B, Tom B, Georgina F, Freddie G, Frederick H, Kevin J, Enid M, Joe T.

Millfield Orchestra

George H, Jason S, Amber J.



YEAR 5 POEMS

This week, Year 5 have been writing Christmas poems. Here are some super Kenning poems from 5EGC. Can you work out what they are describing?

Bed sleeper
Garbage eater
Christmas hater
Gift taker
Card swapper
Present destroyer
Happiness fader
Green grumpy Christmas Doubter

By **Alexis M**

Joy deliverer
Happy donator
Love supplier
Children lover
Courage sharer
Elf carer
Red suit wearer
Mince pie eater
Moon watching, Santa Clause

By **Seb G**

Bone warmer
Hand heater
Tongue burner
Moustache giver
Marshmallow floater
Human delighter
Joy spreader
Santa's drink for the North Pole

By **Archie P**

LINGUIST OF THE WEEK

Luke has worked really hard in both French and Spanish this term. He achieved the highest mark in the year group for his first assessment in French, with a fantastic 90%! Luke works positively and proactively in class, volunteering lots. Well done!



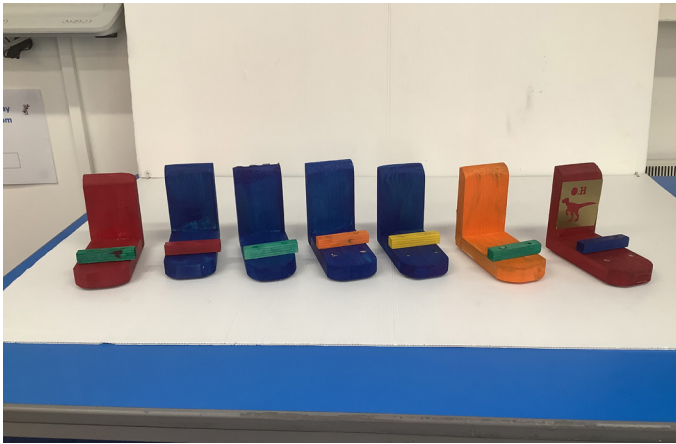
WORD OF THE WEEK

It is the final Millfield Prep Languages game of the year! As always, the first pupil to email Mrs Crispin (crispin.g@millfieldschool.com) with the correct answer, will win a merit and a small prize.

French - **Une étoile**

- 1) a star
- 2) a snowflake
- 3) an angel

Year 4 have been working hard this term to complete these fantastic iPad stands. They have marked up and measured dowel joints to strengthen the wood before using a variety of tools to shape the stand to safely hold the tablet or phone. In the last few weeks we have looked at finishing techniques, (sanding and staining them) before designing and applying these excellent stickers. The children all designed the stickers on the computers and watched with delight as the vinyl cutter, cut their designs out for them. It's great to see children queuing up outside my door at lunch and break times, keen to finish any work to the highest standard and in time for Christmas!



SPEAK OUT

The Year 7 Speak Out took place on Friday 2 December and, after a couple of years of distancing measures – due to Covid – it was great to be back in the Recital Hall, live! The order of finalists were drawn by the panel – Mr Thornburn, Mr Close and Mrs Fitzpatrick – who had the very difficult duty of judging. **Kyuss G** spoke engagingly about his first love - Henley Rugby Club, **Vivienne L** presented 'Brief History of Fast Food', **Isaac C** gave a fascinating talk about Chernobyl, **Sophie F** impressed all with her knowledge of Infinity, **Maya C** gave a passionate speech about Positive Thinking, **Jessica H** educated the audience with a personal look at Learning Difficulties and **Finley B** waxed lyrical about Sebastian Chabal. A special mention goes to **Stanley S**, who was asked to step in for an absent finalist at the last minute and delivered a captivating look at: The Differences Between Football and American Football. Congratulations goes to Vivienne who won both the judges vote and The People's Vote. If you think the judges has a difficult job, spare a thought for the English teachers who had to select the finalists from the whole of Year 7 – with such an amazing array of subjects and speakers this was no easy task. Well done Year 7 for your time and efforts – it was lovely to see you all make great progress in the skills of research, organisation and presentation.



KNITTING CLUB

9

The Monday knitting club have been feeling festive this term, producing some Christmas Cards to take home! Well done everyone, great work.



CHESS CLUB

After two weeks of round robin matches, the chess club members were placed into two groups (seeded and unseeded) where they fought out a semi-final and then final. In the seeded group, a hard-fought game between **Charles N** and **Kruze F** ended in victory for the latter and so Kruze now becomes the inaugural Christmas Club Champion. The unseeded round of matches saw a similarly tough battle between **James H** and **Yusuf Y-K** in their final. The game swayed from one player to the other until, eventually, Yusuf came out as winner and thus Christingle Club Champion for 2022. Well done to all players.



BRILLIANCE AND THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY

10

This term, the Art and History departments have been working closely to develop a new cross curricular project that revolves around a single piece of art in the past. Mr Maxwell and Mr Sweet have been working to develop a series of History of Art lessons that fit both curriculums at the same time in the academic year. In History, Year 7 students have been studying the events of the Norman Conquest and its impact. The Bayeux Tapestry is one of the most valuable sources that we have on 1066 and is always referred to throughout our teaching as well as being displayed in both our History classrooms. The final moments of Edward the Confessor's life, the ships carrying William across the English Channel, the first attack by William's cavalry on Harold's shield wall are all depicted in the fabric and thread of the embroidery woven across the 70 metre long masterpiece commissioned by William's half brother, Bishop Odo.

We wanted our students to look more closely at the history and by looking at the same source from two different subjects, our Year 7 students were given the time to make their own mark on a collaborative art project. Mr Sweet delivered a specific lesson on the reliability of the Bayeux Tapestry at the same time as Mr Maxwell began six panels of key scenes as depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry. The pupils enjoyed putting their newly acquired figurative drawing skills into practice, by carefully observing and drawing the soldiers, horses and boats depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry. The drawing and painting was fantastic, but what made this project, was the collaboration and what they were learning as they observed. Drawing and painting from such a rich resource gave excellent context to their art work. It was good to see the students noticing details like shield types, clothing, boats and other weapons as they meticulously copied detail and added paint.

Our pupils knew the story of 1066 but were now applying that knowledge into their Art lessons and returning to History with a level of insight we had not expected. When one subject helps to inform the learning in another subject, this really helps our students to see the brilliant links between our subjects. Thank you to all the Year 7s who have been involved and I feel the results speak for themselves.

Mr Sweet and Mr Maxwell



BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES

Christmas preparations have been in full swing this week, starting with opening the first day of the advent calendars left by the Hollies' elves. Some ice skating and Christmas shopping at the weekend continued the excitement before the boarders' Christmas dinner and the magical Christingle service. Finally, Secret Santa delivered a sleigh full of presents to round off the week. Well done to all the Hollies' girls for a successful and happy term. Merry Christmas!



CHESTNUT

On the final Sunday of the autumn term we always go on a house trip. This year the boys had a 'triathlon' of sorts to get through. First stop was Hamburger Hill paintball centre. Once the boys had donned their safety equipment, were armed with guns and paint balls aplenty, they went into battle in the forest and used the various abandoned military vehicles to take cover. Some boys returned to base absolutely covered in paint! Next stop was an all you can eat buffet where the boys sampled food from many different cuisines. They did extensive sampling! Final stop was to a bowling alley where they split into five teams. The alley counted their scores and also the speed they were bowling at. Slow and steady scored more points but faster definitely looked more impressive! When we returned to school, the boys joined the rest of the boarding community for a delicious Christmas supper. Please [click here](#) to watch a film of their day.



EDGARLEY MANOR

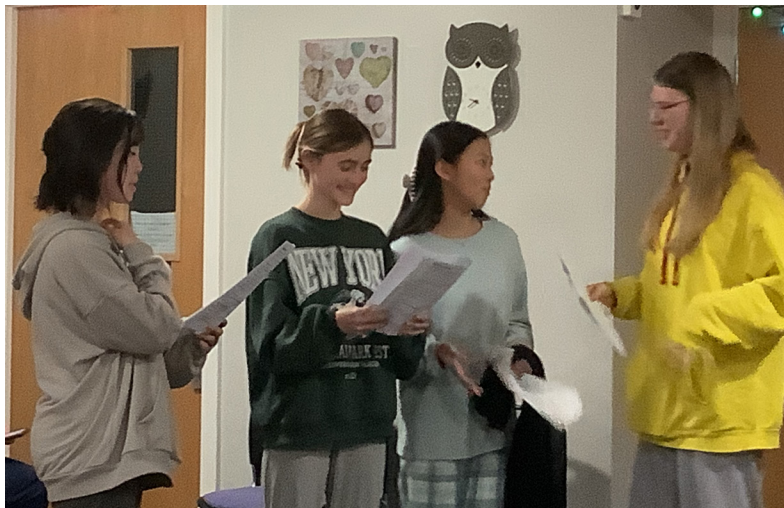
The past week has been a whirlwind of excitement with so much going on. The boys have been really getting into the Christmas spirit and loved taking part in our gingerbread house competition. There was lots of singing, dancing and laughs along the way, as the boys competed in small groups to build and then decorate the best house. Sunday saw our Edgarley Manor Christmas trip, which we managed to keep as a complete secret right until we arrived at Ninja Warrior. The boys had a fantastic time swinging, climbing and jumping and the morning was finished off nicely with lunch at McDonalds. There were a few sleepy heads on the journey back! We attended a lovely Christmas meal put on by the catering staff and the boarders enjoyed being waited on by the house staff. We had a final evening gathering as a group of boarders, where we sang carols and lit Christingles. What a fantastic first term the boys have had! Merry Christmas to you all!



CHAMPION

We are almost at the end of term but that doesn't mean that the Champion girls have slowed down! The yurt returned to our back garden and so the girls spent Saturday evening snuggled under their duvets watching a Christmas movie, whilst devouring delicious treats, even ice-cream! On Sunday, the Christmas trip visited Cabot Circus for some retail therapy - it's been a few years since we last visited and we had a great time with some brilliant purchases. The Boarders' Christmas dinner that evening was a huge success as all the houses ate together. On Monday, **Alice** celebrated her 13th birthday with a delicious cake, cupcakes and pizza. We had our traditional Champion Christmas dinner with all the trimmings - Mr L cooked for 39 boarders and guests and the Champion common was transformed for the event. Our Christmas dinner is always followed by skits and we had some brilliant performances, from singing, dancing, to cheesy jokes...and more. We caught our breath for a lovely Christingle service on Wednesday. Somehow, in between we have managed a little packing for the holidays. Wishing all our Champion families a relaxing Christmas break.





BEREWALL

The Berewall boys have had an extremely busy, fun-filled final week of term. The weekend was our house Christmas trip. We spent Saturday evening in Bristol watching the Bristol Pitbulls Ice hockey team against Leeds Knights! The boys had a great time and even met with the players afterwards to get their pucks signed! Sunday was spent Trampolining at Flipout Somerset. We rounded off the weekend with an incredible boarders Christmas dinner. A great weekend with some very tired boys on Monday morning! Our boys spent the rest of the week packing for Christmas. We hope that everyone enjoys time with their families, and we wish you all a great Christmas and Happy New Year...See you soon!



BRILLIANT BOARDERS

HOLLIES

Valentina has been awarded the Brilliant Boarder title in Hollies this half term. As a new boarder, she has grown in confidence as the term has progressed and has never failed to involve herself in activities. She is friendly and kind to all and thoroughly deserves the award – well done Valentina!



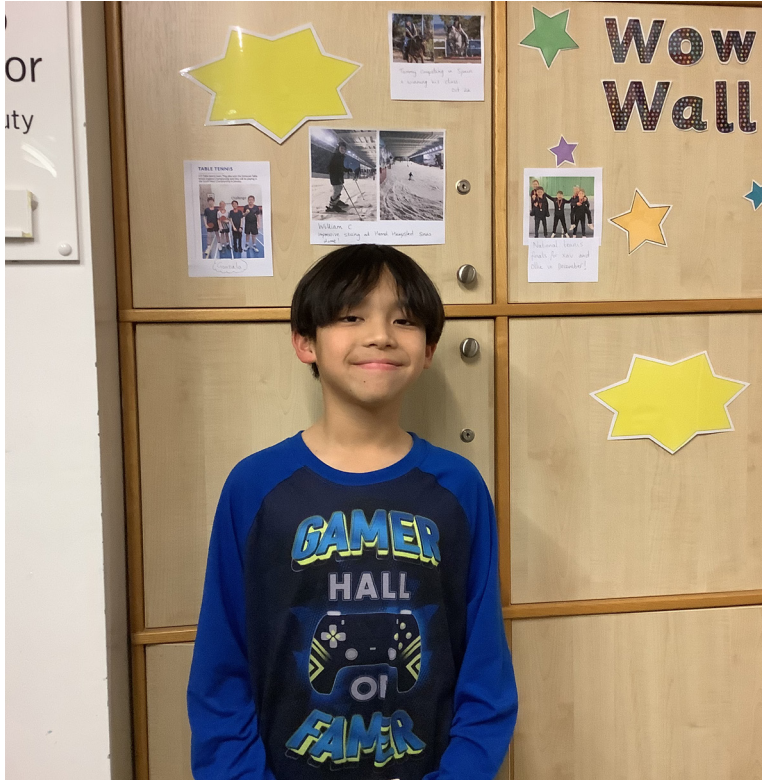
BEREWALL

The Berewall Brilliant Boarder for this half term is **Davin**. This award is very much deserved. Davin is very stoic, organised and kind. He has been very busy, so organisation and preparation is vital for him to be at his best. Well done Davin, from everyone at Berewall.



EDGARLEY MANOR

Edgarley's Brilliant Boarder is **Creston**. Creston is such a positive and happy member of the house. He is polite and makes a real effort to engage with all of the staff and fellow boarders here at Edgarley Manor. Creston is helpful and kind; a real asset to our house.



CHESTNUT

The Chestnut Brilliant Boarder for this half term is **Ibrahim**. Since he started with us, he has become much more independent. He is always keen to offer to help around the house and through perseverance, he has widened the repertoire of foods that he'll eat. He sets a great example to the other boys. He is an asset to the house and the school and should be congratulated for his efforts.



CHAMPION

14

Mariia in Year 5 joined Champion in September. She hadn't visited the school before and found it a little hard to settle in at first. However, over the past months she has found her feet and has developed friendships both within and outside her year group. Well done Mariia – definitely a brilliant boarder!



CHRISTMAS JUMPERS



SPORTING NEWS

SPORTS COLOURS

Sports colours at Millfield Prep School are awarded each term and are seasonal. Cricket and sailing for example will be awarded in the summer term. It is important to note that colours are only awarded to Year 8 pupils and although performance is an element, other important factors are: dedication, discipline, and behaviour.

Hockey Colours

Full

1. Morolayo A
2. Ruby B
3. Jasmine C
4. Agi C
5. Tilly C
6. Lola S
7. Livi S
8. Gracie T

Half

1. Karme M
2. Megan B
3. Eleanor E
4. Charlie L

Rugby Colours

Full

1. Tristan A
2. Max E
3. Jacob G
4. Rupert J
5. Ryan M
6. Henry M
7. Ethan W-B

Half

1. Max B
2. Hugo B
3. Daniel C
4. Oli H
5. George H
6. George L
7. Ollie L
8. Harry S
9. Laurie S
10. Alex T
11. Edwards W

Multi Sports Colours

Full

1. Iona M
2. Vienna T
3. Ruby B
4. Nancy M
5. Billy C
6. Hope L
7. Mateo E
8. Alex T

Half

1. Emily H

Squash Full Colours

1. Raya V

Swimming Full Colours

Full

1. Billy C
2. Kaden F
3. Sam J
4. Keeleigh C
5. Emily H
6. Maisie F
7. Tumi M
8. Iona M

Climbing Half Colours

1. Harry J

Skiing Half Colours

1. Liberty W

Sailing Half Colours

1. Tim D P
2. Hunter K
3. Theo T

Cross Country Colours

Full

1. Iona M
2. Ruby B
3. Ellie D
4. Hope L
5. Emily H
6. Vienna T

Half

1. Daniel A
2. Tristan A
3. Xavier B
4. Cello J-R

HOUSE SWIMMING

Well done to all those that battled it out in the pool to become house swimming 2022 champions. Congratulations to Saxons who were victorious! The points total were: Saxon 479, Jutes 477, Angles 431, Danes 300.



It was a memorable foggy afternoon at Kingweston on Saturday for some of our Year 8 footballers. Millfield Girls U14 played their first ever official fixture against Haygrove in the Somerset County Cup. There were lots of smiles, happy faces, kind team spirit, some great goals and foggy tackles! All of the girls were excellent from the beginning to the end. They showed fantastic attitude, great teamwork and advanced into the next round! Let's keep it going! Well done to the girls who played a year up.



The U13s travelled to Shrewsbury house for the forth round of ISFA. After a tight first half, Millfield pulled away in the second half winning 5-1. Great football on display at a stunning facility.



The U12 Boys travelled to Exeter City FC on Monday evening for a fixture against their U11 Academy side. The football on display was intense throughout, in a 7 aside format of 20 minute quarters. The two teams were tied after three quarters, with Exeter's quality showing in the final quarter as they pulled ahead. A great evening for development with every Millfield pupil playing in at least two positions.



CROSS COUNTRY

The senior girls cross country team headed up north to Leeds on Friday to be ready for the English Schools Cup Final races on Saturday. After a long drive and a big dinner, the team had a good sleep and were fresh and ready to go. Having won the county and regional rounds convincingly they were among the favourites going into the race. The event is open to all schools in England so to be at the finals is a good achievement. The start is manic with all teams being allocated a narrow pen to start from. We practised coming out at pace and when the gun went wall six runners were out quickly. The 2.3km course had some testing hills which suits our athletes. Millfield allows all our pupils to experience lots of different sports so a huge thank you must go to the coaches of the swimming, hockey, cricket and multi sports teams for helping the finalists be fully prepared. The team packed well at the front of the field and once all the scores had counted Millfield finished third. This is a great achievement and the whole team can be very proud of how well they represented Millfield. It is also very rewarding to visit the podium at a national final. Congratulations to Ruby Bodman, Iona Murray, Bea Soper, Emily Hughes, Hope Lewis and Ellie Danner. The senior school also had a girls team at the finals and they made the podium in third place as well so it was a very good day for Millfield Cross Country.



EQUESTRIAN - THE CHRISTMAS SHOW

17

The results of the Christmas Show were:

60cm

1st **Matilda** on Bluebell

2nd **Toby** on Spike

3rd **Ollie** on Pilot

70cm

1st **Saskia** on Lady

2nd **Tilly** on Mr Ed

3rd **Jack** on Charlie

80cm, 90cm, 1m

1st **Tommy** on Coleman

2nd **Sarah** on Sonny

3rd **Elsie** on Ruby

4th **Vaasvi** on Quin



The boys competed in dressage on Sunday. **Olly** competed in the prelim 13 and did a really good test including really nice circles, coming third with 64.8%. He also won the fancy dress. **Toby** did prelim 13 and came second with 68% and did the novice with 61.96% and a first.

18



Everley was placed second in the Prelim with her personal best score of 74%. Everley also placed third in her first Novice test. Millfield received team second in a very big class with lots of very nice horses, while it was also **Jack's** first dressage test. **Vassvi** and Quin, Jack and Charlie, Everley on Diddles. Well done to you all!



The riders all had a hot chocolate after a chilly early morning ride.



Millfield held a Grade 5 U10 Boys and Girls tournament over the weekend. There was some great play by everyone. **Almendra C G** and **Lowri S-M** battled it out for top spot with Almendra coming away with the win! The boys event saw **Oscar F**, **Harry G**, **Noah K** and **Raffie B** play some good tennis. Noah finished runner-up, well done!



Over the weekend, **Isabella W**, **Noah F** and **Finn S** competed in a mini-red tournament in Yeovil. Isabella and Finn played against each other in the quarter-final and Isabella beat Noah in the final to come away as the winner, well done!



Over the weekend, **Toby W**, **Thomas K**, **Xavier B**, **Zach K** and **Ollie W** represented Millfield at the Year 7 and 8 National Schools Finals in Bolton. The boys were competing against the top four teams in the country and battled it out all weekend. There was some fantastic play by everyone, and the boys finished third. This is a fantastic achievement considering over 2,000 schools had originally entered the tournament and all five boys are eligible to compete in the same age group next year.



We are delighted to announce that Millfield Prep tennis coach, Julie Sinkins, has been selected in Team GB's over 50 squad for the upcoming World Tennis Championships! The competition will take place in Turkey at the end of March 2023. A fantastic achievement Julie.



The girls took part in the annual Hazlegrove Tournament. They performed superbly, winning three games, losing two and drawing one. This put the girls in joint third place overall. They have all had an excellent season and worked incredibly hard all term!



The girls had a wonderful morning playing some brilliant hockey, improving in every match they played. The girls ended up second place overall in the tournament. A superb way to finish their hockey season - a huge well done!

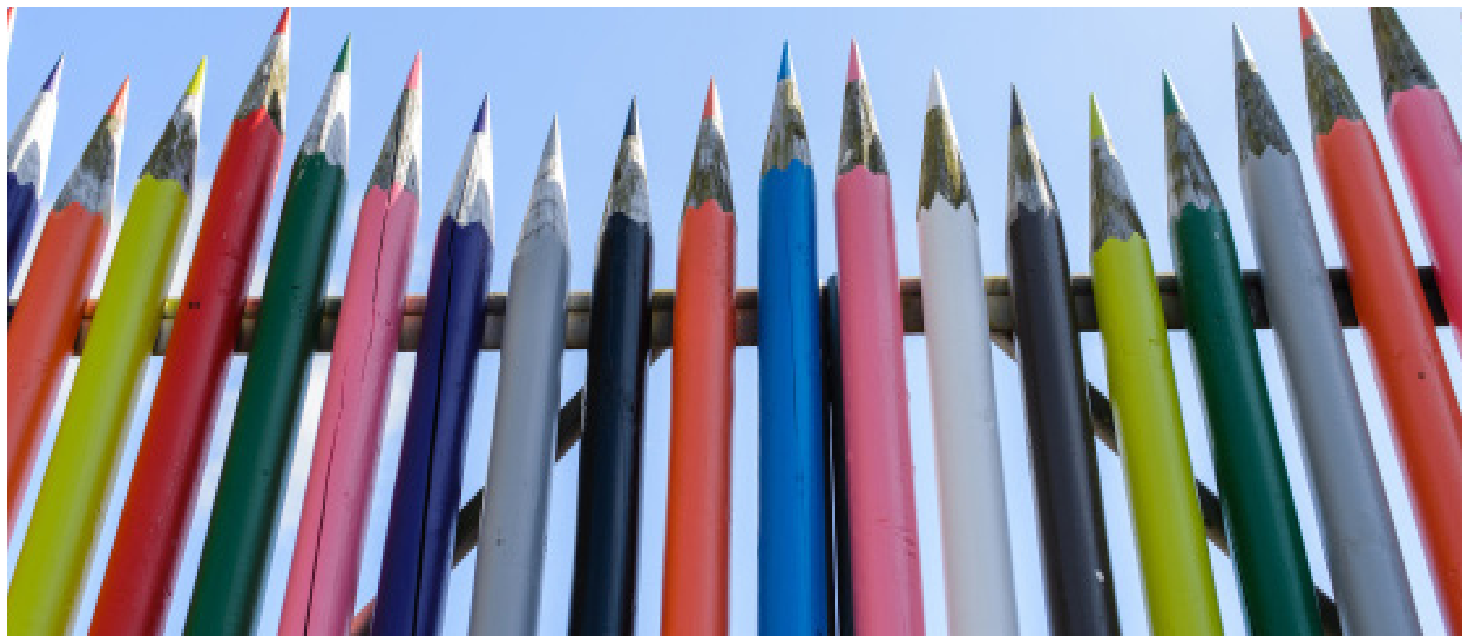


The U12A girls hockey team took part in the IAPS National Finals on a cold and foggy day in Bristol last week. The girls have worked so hard this term, always getting down to training in double quick time and taking on board any advice and guidance that the U12 coaches have given them. In a group of seven teams, the 10-minute matches came thick and fast with one chance or one mistake often being the difference between a win or a loss. The team navigated the first four games well winning them all, scoring five goals and conceding none, leaving them top of the group and hopeful of progressing through to the main cup competition for finishing either first or second in their group. Victories against St Thomas's Battersea, Danes Hill, Taunton and Embley were exactly what the team deserved but they finished with two tough games, losing 1-0 against Repton before having to win against Barrow Hill to progress in second place, sadly losing 1-0 to a late winner. This left the team entering the Plate competition and despite having all the play, territory and chances in the 1/4 final against Hurstpierpoint, the team lost on golden goal, and were feeling rather disappointed after such a good start to the day. The girls learnt a great deal from the day: creating momentum, working hard as a team and realising that playing sports with your friends is so much fun. The lunch time sing a-long in the bus certainly helped warm up the team and kept spirits high. Well done for an excellent season and good luck next year.





NEWSLETTER

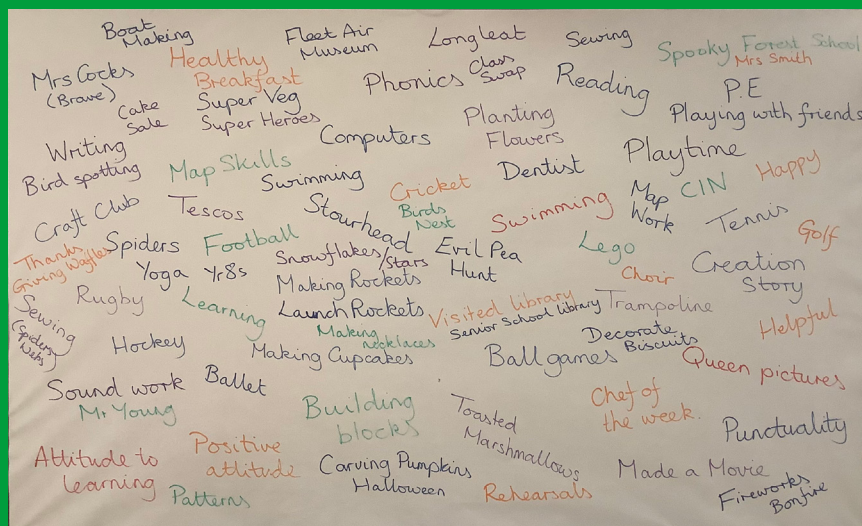


MESSAGE FROM MR JORY

It is hard to believe that this is the last newsletter of 2022 – what a fantastic term it has been. The children have worked so hard and achieved so much, they never cease to amaze us and make Pre-Prep such a wonderful place. There have been many highlights this term with trips to Longleat, Fleet Air Museum, Tesco, Stourhead and the Senior School. We have been exploring our school grounds fruit picking, looking for seasonal changes and enjoying the wonderful wildlife, including a life-sized elephant on the Pre-Prep playground.

This week we have enjoyed a number of events, including Christingle, Mischievous Elf, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas lunch, Early Years Nativity, Crib Service at St John's Church and finishing off an amazing term with a show and Christmas parties.

Pre-Prep is always full of energy, excitement and enthusiasm. The children have enjoyed swimming, extra-curricular activities, languages, assemblies, PE and music with support from the Prep School staff. The children have been contributing to our display, full of all the things that they remember and enjoyed throughout this term; we have been quite busy!



Thank you to the whole school community for supporting our Crib Service and Nativity, which were both a huge success. Well done to everyone for getting involved in our Children in Need day, raising £464.

It may be a busy time in Pre-Prep at this time of year, but it certainly is a wonderful one! We know your children have enjoyed all the festive fun and they are brimming with excitement for their well-deserved Christmas holiday. Well done and thank you to all the staff who work incredibly hard to make the learning journeys so memorable.

Finally, as this year draws to a close, we would like to thank you all for supporting the school. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful and successful new year. We are all looking forward to seeing what we achieve in 2023.

EYFS NATIVITY

A huge well done to the Pre-School and Reception children for their wonderful Nativity production. They have worked so hard, learning all the songs, actions and words; we are all so very proud of them.



CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS

The Tadpole room has been busy with Christmas preparations this week! Highlights have been planting a Christmas tree at forest school and practising for our Nativity. Everyone enjoyed trying on costumes for the nativity and we are all excited to perform to our families and friends this week. We have had a lovely term and we want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy new year!



PRE-PREP

CHRISTINGLE

Pre-Prep had a beautiful Christingle service. The children all made their own Christingle lanterns. The candles were lit, while Pre-Prep said their prayers. We then sung the Christingle Jingle to finish a lovely morning.



FOREST SCHOOL FUN

We had a fantastic, festive time in the Forest on Tuesday morning. The Christmas music was playing, the muffins were toasting on the fire and decorations were being made. Every child also planted a Christmas tree, a gift from us to them. Hopefully, the tree will grow with them and be a reminder of their Early Years at Millfield Pre-Prep School.



CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Reception has been a flurry of Christmas activities. The fire on the big screen has been lit all week with the carols playing, keeping us in the festive spirit! The children have enjoyed making lots of Christmassy crafts and baking festive cookies. What a lovely end to our first term in Reception. Merry Christmas everybody!



MATHS ACTIVITIES AND GAMES

This week, the KS1 children have been given a wonderful treat by Mr Edwards in the maths department. We were invited to his classroom for an afternoon of Christmas-themed maths activities and games. The children loved spending time in the Prep; playing the Christmas games and hearing a Christmas story at the end of the session. Thank you so much to Mr Edwards for organising such a special event for the children. We loved it!



POSTING LETTERS TO FATHER CHRISTMAS!

This week Year 2 had a magical trip to the Senior school library...with a twist! We visited the library yurt for a story, Christmas biscuit and Christmas colouring. Thank you to the library staff for a magical experience. We have also been busy writing in our neatest handwriting to none other than Father Christmas! When the children had checked their lists they then addressed their envelopes to the North Pole and we went out to the post them in the post box. We are all hoping for replies! Mrs Robbins can attest we have all been good this term!



ERIC THE ELEPHANT

Meet Eric the Elephant! Eric was a special guest at the Upper Sixth Ball on Saturday night, which had a circus theme. Before he made his way home, Eric visited the Millfield Prep and Pre-Prep pupils.





MINIS NEWS



MINIS CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

The Minis had great fun getting festive and messy! They made glittery Christmas puddings, reindeer Christmas cards, bubble wrap Christmas trees and wreaths to take home. There was plenty of painting on our cardboard box Christmas tree in preparation for our Christmas party next week, and everyone enjoyed revisiting our snowy polar animals sensory tray.

