



#799
13 JANUARY 2022



MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

It has been a huge pleasure to welcome everyone back at the start of the New Year and you will no doubt see from the pages below that term is very much up to full speed again. I do hope that wherever you were over Christmas and New Year that you had an enjoyable time.

In spite of the weather, which I think we would all agree has been pretty horrendous at times, the children have started the term in a very positive mood and I have enjoyed catching up with them over the past 10 days to hear about their plans for the term.

My focus in our Prep assemblies so far has been on our approach to the challenges that face all of us from time to time. In particular, I have highlighted two superb books, both very different in style, but combine to form an excellent starting point for any child (or adult actually!) who is looking to push through problems or simply find a route to personal growth and development. The animated film of Charlie Mackesy's *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* was a huge Christmas success, and I have encouraged children to watch it if they haven't already seen it, but I have also said that I think the book is a must read. The other book I have highlighted to the children is *You are Awesome* by Matthew Syed, which is full of practical tips to help build your confidence and get better at almost anything. If you have not got a copy of either in your household then I strongly advise you to, and I hope your children will be mentioning this too.

Have a great weekend when it arrives.

Yours,

Dan

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is this excellent painting of an owl by Enid M.



Exeat Weekend

The school will shut at 3.45pm on Friday 20 January for exeat weekend. There will be no clubs, activities, games or late stay etc. Traffic is likely to be high on campus so please try to arrive at your allocated time slots for year groups or it will block the campus. Siblings are able to be picked up together at earlier time slots. Please make sure your children are aware of times and venues to avoid any confusion. If parents are able to pick up children in Years 3&4 at 3.30pm then that would be most appreciated to ease congestion, otherwise their pick up is 3.45pm from Martins Lane.

Pre-Prep 3.15pm Staff car park
Year 3 3:45pm Martin's Lane
Year 4 3:45pm Martin's Lane
Year 5 3:45pm Martin's Lane
Year 6 4:00pm Martin's Lane
Year 7 3:45pm Reception car park
Year 8 4:00pm Reception car park

Reminder about medications

If your child requires any medication that has been prescribed by a GP/Doctor other than Dr Hughes, please can you ensure that you contact the medical centre to inform them. As per our Medical Policy, all medications have to be in English and labelled correctly for each pupil with their name, date of birth, dose to be given and when. Any medications that are not labelled correctly, may not be administered in accordance with the NMC medicines policy.

GP appointments can be arranged for our boarding pupils, all day pupils must be registered with their local GP and be reviewed by them as needed. The nursing team will review any pupil that becomes unwell or suffers an injury during the school day. Parents of day pupils will be contacted to arrange collection of the pupil for further review if needed. Boarding pupils will be cared for as per MPS Boarding Policy.

THUMBS UP!

The pupils are back on campus and they have started the spring term in great spirits!



CHARITY BOOK SALE

We have a number of copies of the books pictured below for sale. First come first served. Please bring cash in an envelope to J4 in group tutor time or see Mrs Close. All the money will go towards sending some of our old text books to Africa via the charity Books2Africa. Minimum £2 donation.



WRITER'S CLUB

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The Creativity Collective - junior writers hard at work.



LINGUIST OF THE WEEK

This week's linguist of the week is **Ollie W.** Ollie has displayed a great work ethic in French and Spanish classes and has made pleasing progress in both languages. Well done Ollie!



MANDARIN

Saturday mornings provide an opportunity for our Year 3 and 4 pupils to learn Mandarin. This week, preparations have begun for the celebration of Chinese New Year which falls on Friday 20 January! From their designs, can you guess what the animal will be for 2023?



WORD OF THE WEEK

The Millfield Prep Languages game returns! 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.

Spanish - **Un acebo**

- 1) Insulation
- 2) Island
- 3) Iceberg

Year 5 have completed their third project of the year, making these fantastic autograph cricket bats. They have measured and cut up the bat from a technical drawing, before finishing them to a high standard. They re-visited the CAD-CAM skills they learnt from last term to make the additional vinyl stickers. Well done to all!



POEM

What Is Blue?
by Fredi D-H

Blue is lapis lazuli
Brighter in the night.
Blue is feeling cold
You start to get tight.

Blue is a blueberry
You want a bite.
You start to get hungry
Then it is always in sight.

Blue dart frogs
A dangerous delight.
It is never polite
It has a very bad bite.

Blue is the sky
Who knows why?
The sky is bright
The sky is dry.

Blue is electricity
Need it everyday.
No one wants a delay
Electricity is the way.

Blue is for bluebells
Rare and pretty.
Illegal to pick
They are not in the city.

Blue is for ocean
Silky smooth.
Blue cotton wool
I'm telling the truth.

Blue comes with you
Blue is fast.
Blue is bright
Blue is never harassed.

Blue bluebells brought blueberry's back.

DISCOVER BRILLIANCE

At Millfield Prep, every child is seen and known as an individual, but we also firmly believe that every child is brilliant – and it is our mission to help them discover their brilliance and then nurture it to the full. Read more about Prep pupils discovering their brilliance by clicking the title above!



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

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This week, the Year 3 pupils have been working on developing knife skills and have produced some beautiful and nutritious fruit skewers.



Elsewhere the Year 8 pupils have been preparing, producing, and plating chilli con carne. They have been working in small teams and competing against each other for the title of 'Best Kitchen'.



HUMANITIES

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Our Year 6 pupils have started their new humanities topic, 'Moving People'. They began the topic by working together in groups to construct shelters. They soon realised the importance of working together as a team and listening to each other's suggestions and ideas.



SCIENCE

In Year 6 Science, pupils have been studying 'Being Human,' and learning how their complex brains differentiate humans from other forms of life on earth. This parietal lobe experiment was organised by the children to test the area in our brains responsible for processing our sense of touch and language, seeing if they could pass on a written word to each other, without seeing it.



BOARDING LIFE

CHAMPION

It's been a very busy return to school for the Champion girls. We were delighted to welcome **Tabby** and she is already settling in very well. On Friday we celebrated **Noelle's** birthday. Noelle joined Champion in Year 6 and she is now 13 - where has the time gone? On Saturday we headed out to Senior School to watch the Millfield Showcase. The girls were really impressed with the standard of dancing and singing, and it was great to see some of our previous boarders on stage taking part.



HOLLIES

The girls have launched themselves back into term in true rocket style with early morning clubs, scholarship preparations and Matilda rehearsals to name a few... The first evening back was a celebration for **Arabella's** birthday – the perfect way to begin. A few days later, we celebrated **Katie's** birthday with another wonderful cake and enthusiastic singing. The singing continued for Mrs Morgy's birthday a few days later, with just a few more candles on the cake! To finally end the Christmas season, the girls enjoyed a traditional pantomime at the Theatre Royal in Bath. Oh no they didn't... The girls enjoyed a very loud, competitive and enjoyable Bingo night on Wednesday. And finally, congratulations to our new heads of house – **Saskia** and **Morolayo**.



BEREWALL

The Berewall boys have returned from the holidays in fine form and settled back into the routine. We have celebrated two birthdays with **Tristan** and **Carl**, the newest teenagers in the house! The weekend saw the boys enjoy a chilled evening with homemade Chicken Katsu curry and a movie. Also, the games room is now fully open, so the boys are now getting their pool cues ready and skills sharpened. We are sure that during the dark evenings we will see a tournament very soon! The boys had a team photo this week to send their love to their friends, with a message of family and looking after each other. We all wish you a Happy New Year.



EDGARLEY MANOR

It has been lovely having all of our boys back from the Christmas holidays and also welcoming a new starter, **Angus**. It has been great seeing the boys greet each other again and share their holiday news. We enjoyed an evening over at Millfield to watch the Showcase on Saturday. The boys came back full of chatter about what they saw and feeling inspired by the show of talent. With pleasure, we announced our new Head of House, **Ollie L.**



CHESTNUT

On Wednesday evening the boys headed over to the sports hall. They were split into their dorms and set the task of building their own paper aeroplanes. They had their iPads so they were able to research and follow instructions for their planes. Once completed, they competed for prizes which were awarded for distance and accuracy. We had a whole house fly past to finish! The boys then played big ball football. It was chaos and tricky to score! We will see if we can find an even bigger ball for next week...



SPORTING NEWS

NETBALL

At the end of last term, the 1st team sixth form netball girls came across to coach the Year 8 girls. Thank you to Mrs Adamson for organising - the girls had a great time. Good luck for the rest of their season and good luck to all our players for this term!



HOCKEY

The boy's hockey 1st XI travelled to Dean Close to play in a prestigious early season tournament against many of the strongest hockey playing schools in the West / Midlands. Despite limited preparations, the boys were on sparkling form. In the first match we defeated Bromsgrove and recovered from a slow start to draw with Warwick. Conceding a well-worked penalty corner against Clifton, we lost a close fought encounter. In the final match against our hosts Dean Close we played our best hockey of the day, scoring three goals without reply. Finishing runners-up was a magnificent start to the season. Congratulations to **Ryan** and **Tom** who shared the goalkeeper of the tournament award. Thank you to Mr Foster for all your kind assistance.



Everley S-D and Diddles achieved two first places at each show in their affiliated classes, which has qualified the duo for a second Petplan Festival in Dorset in February.



Over Christmas, **Matilda R-C** carried on her good form with a win at Avon Vale Pony Club's Christmas competition, at the West Wilts Show Ground. Matilda and Bluebell went clear in the 50cm class over a second faster than the rest of the competitors.

Vaasvi K was riding at home during the holidays, winning several rosettes and a style class! Great work, Vaasvi.



WEDNESDAY SPORT RETURNS



The cross country has got off to a strong start with some of our runners racing at the Mendip Championships on Wednesday. The conditions were very traditional for this time of year with horizontal rain, deep mud and a strong wind to contend with! The aim of this race is to finish inside the top 16 which will qualify them to race for the Mendip area in the county championships next weekend. All of the runners have qualified, including winners and podium places from **Bea S, Xavier B, Eva D, Henry M, Connor P, Bienna T** and **Ellie D**. Thank you to the parents who braved the terrible conditions and to Mr Harrison for his help at the event.





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MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



This week, we have been talking about our hopes and dreams for the future. Ask your child what they want to be when they are older and what they might need to do to achieve their dreams?

Reduce, reuse and recycle is our focus for the next few weeks. We want to work as a team to ensure we care for our environment. Ask your child what we can do to help? Or what could happen if we don't reduce our waste or don't recycle?

We are all really excited about what we will learn this term. What challenges will we overcome? What questions will we answer? What mistakes will we learn from? What new opportunities will we experience?

We all know it is going to be a busy term and we are all looking forward to seeing what new learning experiences we will encounter in 2023.

Best wishes,
Mr Jory

On the last day of term, the children were completely mesmerised when the Music for Minatures production company visited to wow us their Snowman show. It was filled with live music and puppetry, and awed even our youngest children. The show was a delightful end to our term and we would like to thank Julie and her team for such a magical show.



DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS

The children expressed an interest in doctors and hospitals this week, so we set up a role play area complete with doctors kits, beds for patients and an appointment book for mark making. All the tadpoles enjoyed looking after their friends and making them feel better. They also looked after Mrs Cocks when she hurt herself and helped put a plaster on her hand. Well done tadpoles for settling in so quickly this term!



KETCHUP ON YOUR CORNFLAKES

Following on from an important discussion last week about whether you would eat scrambled snake, owl ice cream or roasted fox, we shared the story, 'Ketchup on your Cornflakes'. The Frogs have been both amused and disgusted by the different food ideas in the story: custard on your egg, toothpaste on your toast or even ketchup on your cornflakes. The children used the story book to make up their own nonsense questions. As the week has progressed, the children started to wonder what it would taste like if you had custard on your toast or your cornflakes or on your egg. I think an investigation into these food combinations is required! Watch this space...

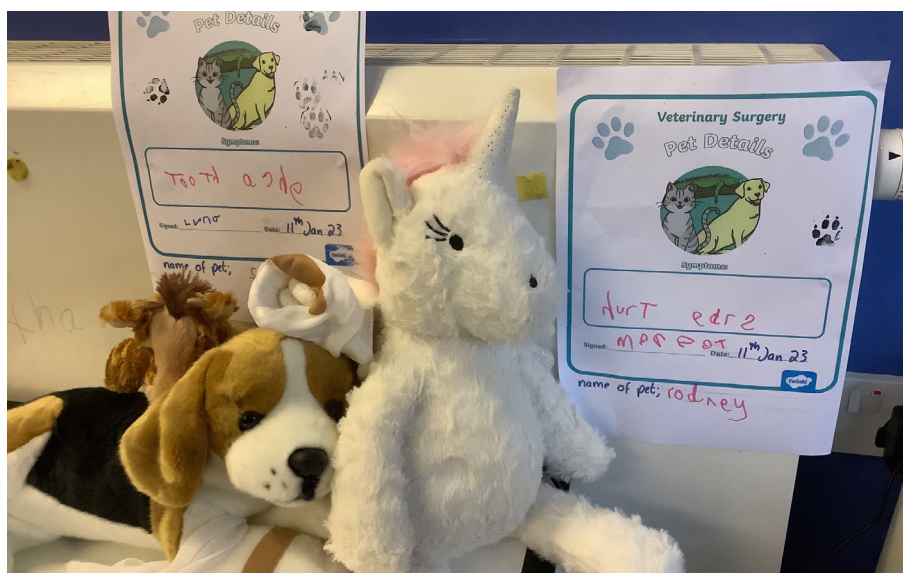
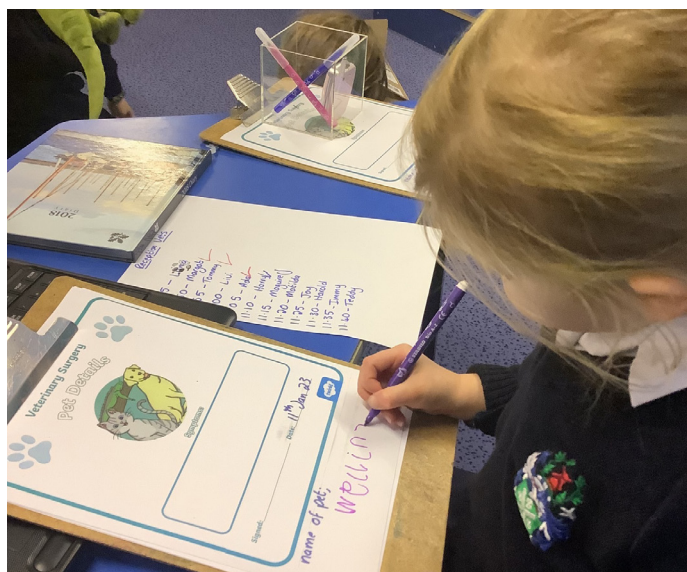


Peering through the window of the Pre-School cloakroom, the Frogs noticed some green shapes poking through the soil; we decided to go and investigate! We were surprised to see that the bulbs we'd planted in the Autumn Term had started to shoot! This was a very exciting discovery. We decided the Pre-School garden area was rather messy, lots of weeds in the planters and leaves on the floor. So, we set about tidying the area, weeding and brushing up. We will keep you updated of our flowers progress.



BECOMING VETS

The Reception class are all very excited to have made their own veterinary practice. The children all brought in a toy animal from home to check in to the vets. There were pets with broken wings, cut legs, hurt tails and poorly tummies. The receptionist wrote down their symptoms and the vets did their best to bandage them up and make them feel better. All the patients are staying in overnight to be looked after by the vets tomorrow.



PUSHES AND PULLS

We have had a force-filled start of term, exploring pushes and pulls on the playground and at the park. The children loved going to Baltonsborough Play park to find forces in action. As you can see, they had a brilliant time. We played tug of war and discussed the pushing of our legs as well as the pulling of our arms. I wonder if the children can find any more examples of pushes and pull at home?



PUSHES AND PULLS

Year 2 have started their new inquiry topic of 'Pushes and Pulls' with a fun-filled trip to Baltonsborough playground. We didn't realise how many pushes and pulls we use until we started talking through our movements while playing! We also used our Forest School session to explore more pushes and pulls using the equipment and natural materials around us. Back in the classroom we used the photos of our activities to discuss and draw the direction of the forces used.



MINIS NEWS



WINTER WONDERLAND

We are very excited to welcome the Minis back for a very busy spring term, with lots of fun activities planned. Here is a lookback to photos from our wonderful Christmas party. The Minis put on their Christmas PJs, boarded our Polar Express, sipped hot, hot, hot chocolate and received a sleigh bell, the first gift of Christmas; what fun!

