



#800
20 JANUARY 2023



MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



CONTENTS

Page 2
Notices and Junior Awards

Page 3
Christmas Celebration
Appeal

Page 4
Heads of School Visit

Page 5
ICT

Page 6
Food Studies

Page 8
IPC

Page 9
Geography

Page 10
Maths

Page 11-12
Boarding Update

Page 13-17
Sporting News

Page 18-24
Pre-Prep Newsletter

Page 25
Minis Update

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

Time has flown this week and whilst it is remarkable to think that we have reached our first Exeat already, there is no doubt that a lot of the children and staff seem more than ready for it!

It has been a busy week for a number of pupils who have been going through our internal scholarship assessments, alongside a large number of external candidates. Good luck to all those who have applied and also to our Year 8 pupils who are about to go through the same process at the Senior School.

On that note, I thoroughly enjoyed the Scholars' Concert last night which helps give the Year 8 music scholarship applicants a chance to perform their pieces in front of an audience. The standard of musicality and the broad range of instruments was really pleasing to see and hear – well done and good luck to all of them.

Mr Hilton and I enjoyed meeting with some of those who are helping with the Parents and Friends Committee and there will be more information to follow about potential dates for their AGM which we hope will be well attended. Classlist stats show that nearly 80% of families have signed up and this is a very positive start – thank you for registering. We are keen to build on that very solid base and aim to get at least one member from every family in the school using the app. Already it is great to see lots of second-hand uniform offers being displayed on there. As time goes by, and more parent events are organised, these will appear in the app too.

Finally, please keep an eye out for a separate note from me over the coming days highlighting some areas that I will be asking the Prep pupils to focus on after Exeat. My sense is that a few simple standards such as punctuality, appearance, general behaviour and manners, have slipped a little and I am asking the staff to drive these standards back up. It will be important to have your support while we reset these with the pupils so please look out for my email before Monday morning which will give further details.

Have a very good weekend when it arrives.

Yours,

Dan

NOTICES

PICTURE OF THE WEEK ²

This week's Picture of the week is this excellent pencil drawing by **Elliot 6REC**.



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 would be grateful to receive these. After 3 January 2023, any changes would be subject to there being spaces available.

Please email admissions@millfieldschool.com

FLEXI-BOARDING

Has your child ever tried flexi-boarding? Or would they like to know what it's like to be a boarder?

From two, three, or four nights per week, or occasional boarding at £67 per night - it can be a convenient option around your schedules, or for early and late sports sessions.

Click [here](#) to find out more.

JUNIOR AWARDS

Miffy, Chota and Oreo are back on the road this week, following a break over Christmas. Miffy has been awarded to **Dylan** for some great determination and resilience in his lessons, always having a growth mindset and giving 100%. Chota has been awarded to **Charlie** for always being keen to help in class, being kind to others and working well as part of a group. Oreo has been awarded to **Orlagh** for making such a positive start to the Spring Term. She has been really thinking hard about how best she can contribute to lessons and has been communicating more effectively with her peers. Well done to all!



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION APPEAL

3

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and KCC team I wanted to write and thank you, the pupils, parents and staff of Millfield Prep School for the generous donation of £571.20 to our Christmas Celebration appeal. The Christmas Party is a day that the children look forward to all year and we're delighted to say that due to the kindness of those at Millfield Prep, we were able to create another very special event. More than 1200 children had a great day and after fried chicken and jollof rice, soft drinks, games and dancing, everyone went home tired but very happy and with a wrapped gift and ice cream. Photos and videos of the day are available on our social media so I do hope you have opportunity to view them.

Thank you again for your support of our work in Ghana. Wishing you a happy and peaceful 2023.

Yours sincerely,



Emily Thomson

Chair of Trustees



HEADS OF SCHOOL VISIT

4

The Heads of Millfield School, **Shayaan** and **Olivia**, joined the Prep Heads of School, **Megan** and **Daniel**, for their weekly meeting on Thursday. The group discussed with Mr Thornburn what it was like being a Head of school, exchanged knowledge on what they have learnt and shared their ideas for the future.



LINGUIST OF THE WEEK

Caterina is linguist of the week for her excellent work and achievement in Spanish. Well done, **Caterina**.



WORD OF THE WEEK

Apologies for the mistake in last week's Word of the Week. The correct answer for the word 'Acebo' is 'Holly'.

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.

Latin: **ianua**

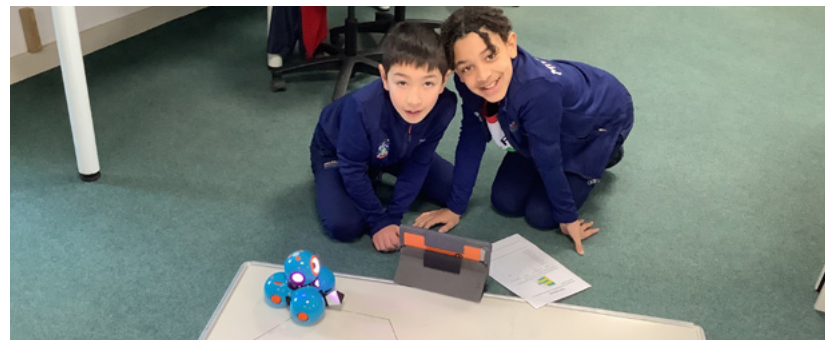
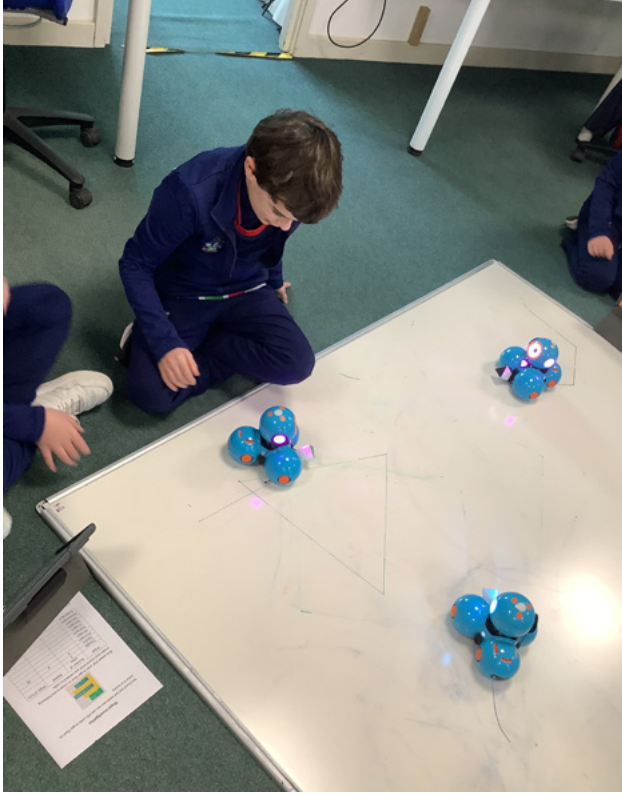
- 1) Door
- 2) January
- 3) Beginning

ICT - WHO ARE DASH AND DOT?

5

Year 5 have been working on their programming skills with the Dash robots. This week we have been investigating how to draw different shapes using loops to simplify our code.

Dash and Dot are exciting, hands-on learning tools for teaching creative problem solving, coding and robotics and they give the pupils a head start on learning fundamental STEM principles and 21st-century skills. Connecting Dash and Dot to an iPad via Bluetooth, the pupils can send commands to get them to move, to light them up, and to detect the world around them. Both Dash and Dot are capable of interacting with their surroundings and thanks to inbuilt sensors they can detect sounds, movements and other objects.



YEAR 4 DASH AND DOT

Year 4 have been investigating early writing as part of their inventions topic. We started with cave paintings, what do you think of our efforts?



FOOD STUDIES

6

The Year 5 enjoyed creating personalised tortilla pizzas in class this week.



In Food Studies this week, the Year 4 pupils have enjoyed creating a cous cous salad. Learning about how cous cous is produced and identifying the function of carbohydrates in the human body.



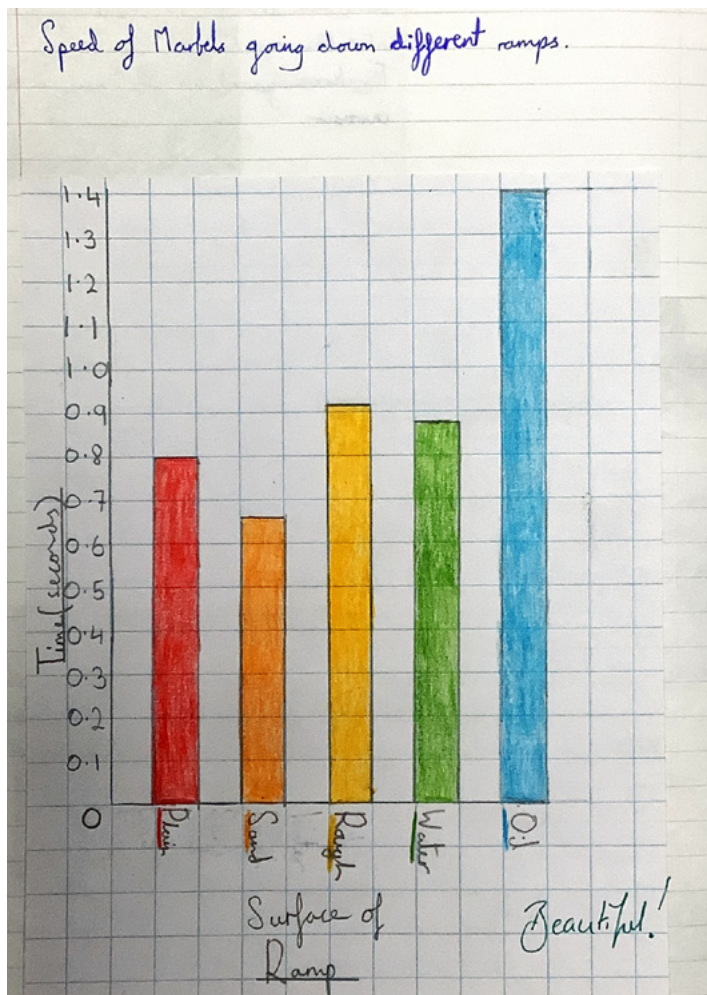
This week the year 3's produced sandwiches independently. They also learnt about the importance of a balanced lunch and were able to identify 7 carbohydrates and proteins.



This week, Year 8 focused on the presentation of dishes, researching top chefs and techniques to use to improve the aesthetic appeal of their dishes.



Year 5 have been experimenting with Friction as part of their Fascinating Forces project. They have rolled marbles down different surfaces, predicting which surfaces would be the quickest and slowest for the marble to roll down and then timing to find out. They have then graphed their results beautifully, great work Year 5!



Geography in the News

Geography is all around us. As Michael Palin has said, 'it illuminates the past, explains the present and prepares us for the future. What could be more important than that?' Pupils in our lessons are constantly developing a better understanding about our planet and how we have a duty of care to protect it for future generations.

In Year 7 and Year 8, we have regular discussions about topical news stories. Since returning to school at the start of this term, here are some of the stories that have been discussed:

1. Volcanic eruption in Chile (11th Dec)
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-63932228>
2. Volcanic eruption in Guatemala (12th Dec):
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/63943544>
3. California earthquake (21st Dec):
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-64046462>
4. Winter storms sweep the USA (23rd Dec):
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-64061588>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-64099642>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-64116431>
5. European winter heat (Jan 2023):
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-64158283>
6. Heavy rainfall leaves Somerset levels flooded (Jan 2023):
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-somerset-64153653>
7. The Swiss ski resort with no snow (Jan 2023)
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-europe-64190150>

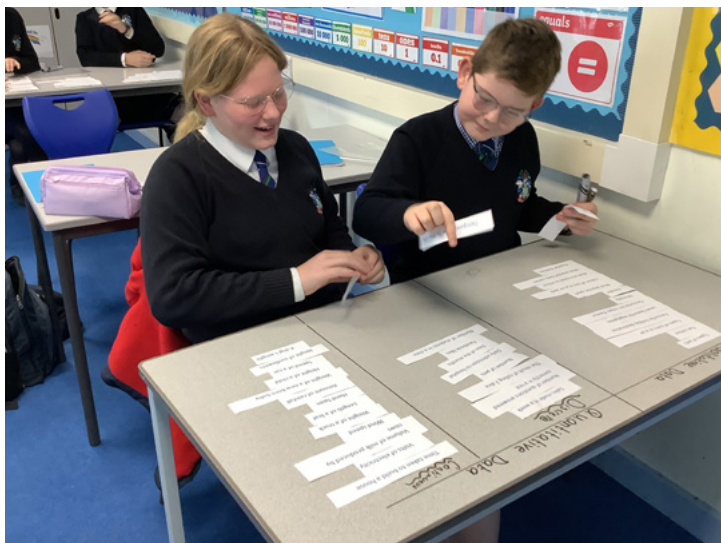


Take the time to look at these stories and talk about them together. Think about: who, what, when, where, why and how the event happened. There are geographical stories in the news every day, look out for them. It broadens children's knowledge of the subject and raises awareness of the issues facing our planet.

Miss A. McConnell – Head of Geography.



As an introduction to our Year 7 data handling topic, the pupils worked in pairs to group items into Qualitative and Quantitative data, before separating the quantitative data in to categories of continuous and discrete.



Year 8's worked in pairs this week to complete an algebra loop card activity to turn words into algebraic expressions before deciphering the encrypted message.



Following on from some initial work in the classroom, the Year 8's concluded the topic of simplifying algebra by completing a challenging treasure hunt in pairs. They all did brilliantly and it was a very close competition, however we must give congratulations to the winning pair- **Soha and Karmele**.



BOARDING LIFE

CHAMPION

It has been a chilly week and we have even had some snow! The girls enjoyed a lovely relaxing Saturday night watching a movie and a takeaway snack. Perfect ahead of an energetic Sunday at Flip-Out – there were quite a few sore muscles reported on Monday! Big news of the week was that three of our girls reached the top of our achievement chart! Every Champion boarder receives a stamp on their chart for good behaviour, kindness to others and generally being brilliant boarders - **Florence, Emilia** and **Rose** should be very proud of themselves! Preparations are in hand to celebrate the Chinese New Year and Joy has been a great inspiration in our craft activities. We hope you have a relaxing Exeat.



BEREWALL

This week, the Berewall boys have done their very best to stay warm and dry. We have seen heavy rain and flooding, followed by freezing conditions... making the walk to school a touch icy!! Luckily, we have been keeping ourselves entertained with lots of pool, table tennis and a new love of juggling! Some of our boys have set themselves a target of learning to juggle by Easter. Fingers crossed that they stay motivated and reach their goals. The boys are all looking forward to Exeat, with a much-needed rest in store. We will go again from Sunday and be ready for another busy week. Enjoy your weekend!



Lego houses were made by the girls early in the week with impressive creativity and teamwork in evidence. The fun continued with a Jolly Jumps competition. The girls created their own course and a highly competitive jumping session ensued. A huge thank you to **Emily** and **Larissa** for organising this. There was more jumping at Flip-Out at the weekend followed by a movie night and lots of face packs. As a reward for being an awesome house, the girls enjoyed a Chinese takeaway treat. Another birthday this week was greeted with cake and singing – Happy Birthday **Aneli**!



EDGARLEY MANOR

Another week has flown by! The Edgarley Manor boys had a great time in the sports hall on Saturday night playing cricket and football with the Chestnut boys. We were impressed by our past and current Head of House representing the voice of their fellow boarders by proposing some new ideas for the house. We loved the way they involved everyone (and wore their blazers to make their pitch!). This week we also celebrated **Ollie's** birthday. We were treated to a wonderful cake! Happy birthday **Ollie**!



CHESTNUT

The boys had a fruit buffet on Wednesday night. There was a vast selection of fresh juicy fruit to choose from; apples, grapes, strawberries, pineapples and bananas to name a few. And as an extra treat there were bowls full of marshmallows plus melted chocolate to dip it all in. They helped to chop the fruit and prepare the feast. They almost ate it all but we do have a small bowl of fruit left that will be made into smoothies for tomorrow's snacks.



SPORTING NEWS

CRICKET

Congratulations to these boys and girls on selection to performance squads from Somerset, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Wales and Jersey. Highlighting the fantastic cricket program at Millfield prep.



TABLE TENNIS

U13 table tennis Southwest Champions. **Xavier, Guillermo, Thomas** and **Ollie** became, on Sunday at Plymouth, Southwest Table tennis England Champions. **Max** was amazing helping to support and coach the team. Well done, boys for your achievement and enthusiasm. They will now go on to play at the South of England Table tennis England Finals. The U11 Boys and U13 girls' team have also qualified to play at the South of England table tennis finals next month.



CLIMBING COMPETITION

There is an opportunity for all those engaged in climbing this term to take part in The Climbing Academy (TCA) South West Schools Climbing Competition on **Monday 6 February**. Please click [HERE](#) for more information.

On Saturday, Millfield hosted an U8 tennis tournament. It was great to see so many juniors playing in the tournament, a special mention must go to **Finn** who won the Boys tournament and **Isabella** who won the Girls tournament. Well done everyone!





FOOTBALL

Despite the horrendous weather, we have managed to play several fixtures against local schools, clubs and the elements! On Saturday, Year 5 welcomed Huish Tigers from Taunton. All the boys who were available managed to play, and despite switching to the astro, both sides coped brilliantly with the conditions.



On Sunday the riders went to Moreton for the Hickstead Elite qualifiers. **Tommy** won the 1.10m class on his pony Colmena. **Livi** came second on Dapples.



A lovely evening hack this week. From left to right in the last picture: **Soha** on Fred, **Larissa** on Honey, **Hattie** on Elvis and **Zoe** on Indie.





Congratulations to the team who became the South West Regional Champions in the 50cm at Moreton. They were the youngest team in the competition, with **Jack** winning best style. They also placed third in the 60cm; great work team!





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NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



Another fantastic week, where the children have all worked incredibly hard. The weather has definitely been cold this week and the children have enjoyed the ice and snow. Please remember to wear school coats, hats and scarfs, ensuring all are named.

It might be cold outside but the classrooms have been kept warm with all the energy and enthusiasm. Pre-school have been trying some interesting food combinations. Reception have been making homes for their pets and EYFS are excited about their trip to the theatre. Year 1 and Year 2 continued to learn about forces and are looking forward to learning more next week when they visit the Senior School.

This week in assembly we were continuing to learn about our wonderful world and what we can do to ensure it stays that way. Ask your children about how the world was created or ask them to tell you some amazing animal facts or to retell the story of Danny McGee, who ate and drank the whole world for his tea.

Enjoy reading what else has been going on in Pre-Prep this week and I look forward to seeing what we all learn next week. Well done everyone!



CREATING SELF PORTRAITS

This week the Tadpoles have been painting self portraits. This was inspired by the children enjoying playing with a camera last week and wanting to have their photos taken. We printed photos of each of them so they could look at the details of their faces and use paints to create some beautiful self portraits.



TUESDAY TESCO VISIT

Last week we read the story, 'Ketchup on your Cornflakes'. This inspired the Frogs to think about whether different food combinations would taste nice; we needed to investigate! We thought of some unusual combinations and wrote a list. Tuesday's Frogs visited Tesco in the morning, armed with a shopping list and a trolley or basket, the children ventured into the supermarket to find the different grocery items. They thought about whether the items on their list would be found in the fridge, freezer or on the shelves. When we found an item on our list, we ticked it off and looked for the next. Once we had all our items we paid for them before returning to Pre-School to try our unusual food combinations.



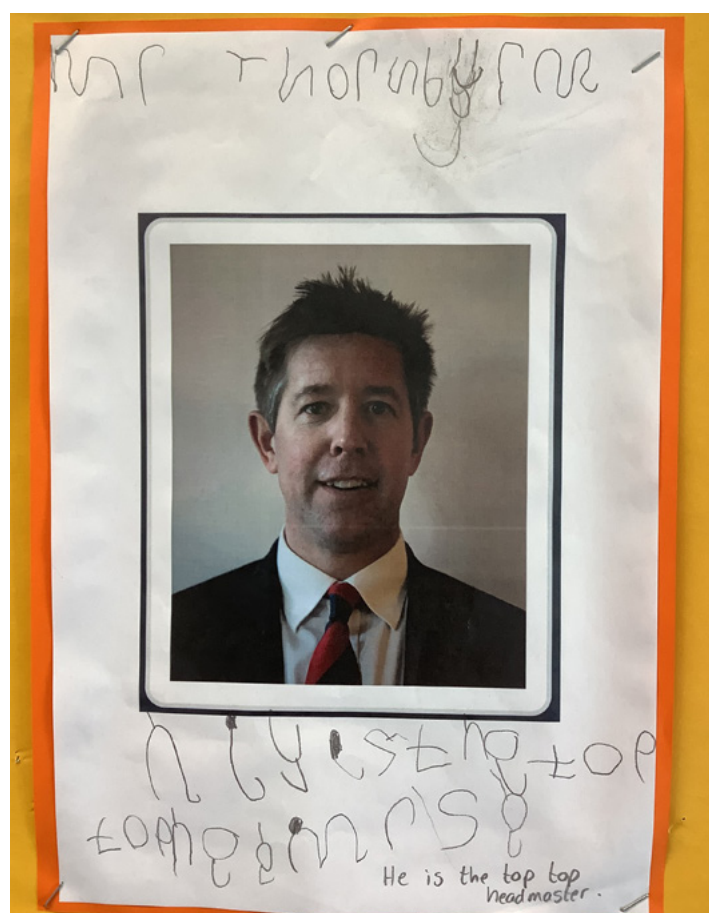
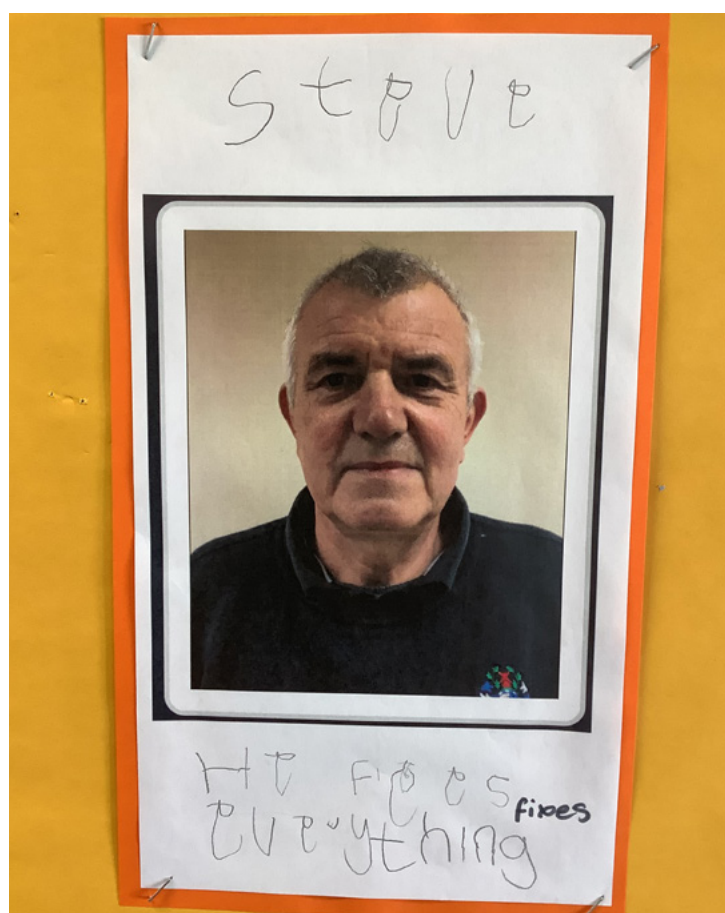
UNUSUAL FOODS

Once we had returned to the Pre-School, we prepared our unusual food combinations. Over the next few days the Frogs tried: gravy on popcorn, custard on toast, baked beans on jelly, tuna on ice cream, chocolate sauce on pasta, banana on pizza, raspberry jam on sausages and ketchup on cornflakes, the latter being the inspiration combination for our investigation. All the children were fantastic, trying the different foods and thinking about the textures and how they tasted. Each child voted with a thumbs up or a thumbs down for each combination. Gravy on popcorn and custard on toast proved to be the most popular creations. Hopefully we have inspired you to try an unusual food combination too!



PEOPLE THAT HELP US IN THE COMMUNITY

In Reception, to extend our vets topic, we have been focusing on people that help us in the community. We took photos of different people around Millfield Prep and the children used their increasing phonic knowledge to write about what they do to help our community. We are very proud of how well the children are applying their sounds to their writing, and we are all very thankful for all the people that help us.



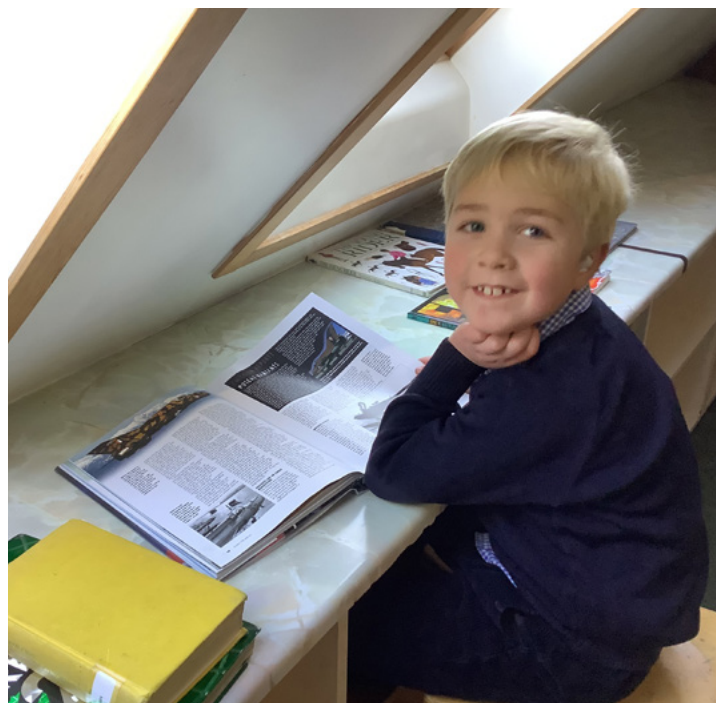
PUSHES AND PULLS GAMES

Year 1 have been busy making some pushes and pulls games. They loved following the instructions to make a kite and worked hard to ensure they were tied up properly and would not fall apart. Tomorrow, we will take them out for their first fly. Hopefully, we will have some wind to push them into the air rather than us just pulling them along the floor.



LIBRARY TIME

Year 2 had another lovely time in the library this week. The children have become very responsible for looking after their books at home and changing their books when they need to, with the help of our kind librarian, Miss. Crispin. We were joined by Head of Science, Ms. Parsons to share her enthusiasm and joy in all things 'sciency' and we checked out some resource books for our classroom on our IPC topic 'Pushes and Pulls'.





MINIS NEWS

MINIS PLAY

It was so lovely to see all of our wonderful Minis again and meet our new Minis too. Everyone was busy exploring our fruit and veg shop, and making pasta to feed the babies! We enjoyed getting messy at our painting stations and made orange by mixing yellow and red. The tractors in our sensory tray were very popular as was whooshing the frogs down the pipes! What a fun time catching up with old friends and making new ones.

