



# NEWSLETTER



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

There can only be one thing to mention at the start of this newsletter and if you were lucky enough to get to see a performance, you will know why! Matilda was a rip-roaring success and I am so proud of everyone involved in it. I mentioned last night that I've seen over 20 years worth of Prep school productions now (that makes me feel very old!) and Matilda was right up there with the very best of them. At times it was easy to forget that these were Prep school children and that all of them have been carrying on their normal and already busy school lives alongside the heavy rehearsal and preparation schedule. Massive congratulations to the entire cast, crew and production team for putting on a truly outstanding run of performances!

As a school we focused on the fact that it has been Children's Mental Health Week this week. I spoke to the Prep pupils in assembly yesterday about trying to find time to disconnect a little from our online lives, while building face to face connections with others. In particular, I showed them a video which I thought was hugely powerful. I have encouraged everyone to try to look people in the eye more, and really notice and 'see' others – it is so easy to be head down in things at a place that is as full on as Millfield, that it pays sometimes to just stop and really look. If you are interested, the video is [here](#).

I mentioned last week that I thought half term was coming at just the right time and I would imagine that this feeling is echoed even more loudly at the end of what has been a fabulous, but tiring week for many. Please encourage your children to use the week off to recharge their batteries ahead of the second half of term. There is so much to look forward to, not least the prospect of lighter mornings and longer days, but it is important that all of us down tools for at least a little bit this week to breathe, relax and enjoy time as a family.

Please do take note of the other messages in this newsletter, particularly about parking in the mornings, use of our Medical Centre and the AGM for the PFA. Have a lovely break and I look forward to catching up with you all again after half term.

Yours,  
Dan

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## PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is this great little drawing by **Dixie C** 6HRP.



## A FROSTY CAMPUS

Mrs Bodman took a lovely picture of a frosty campus this week!



# JUNIOR AWARDS

This week, our kindness awards went to **Trinity B** and **Creston N**. Both children have shown exceptional kindness towards their peers and have tried to ensure that friends who have been struggling a little have been looked after. Well done to you both!



# LINGUIST OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Gonzalo M S**, who is our Linguist of the Week. Gonzalo has shown excellent effort this week in all of his EAL classes, and produced some fantastic pieces of work. We were particularly impressed with his use of adjectives when describing a silent film we watched in class.



# PARENT NOTICES

## Parents and Friends Association AGM Friday 24 February at 9.00am

We are looking to hold our inaugural Parents and Friends Association AGM on Friday 24 February at 9.00am. The venue will be confirmed dependent on numbers who respond but will likely be the Recital Hall or Conference Room.

The PFA will sit within the Millfield Foundation and will be managed on a day-to-day basis by a group of parent volunteers with support from members of the Foundation Office. The PFA Committee will consist of a Chair and a minimum of three committee members (one for each key role of the PFA - social networking, fundraising and professional networking) from the parent body and the Head of Foundation & Alumni Andrew Cook (OM, Ivythorn 1987-92). The AGM will be given the opportunity to vote for who should hold these roles.

The committee will meet monthly to discuss events and activity. 'Classlist' will be used to communicate with parents and as such the committee would seek support from parents in each year group to galvanise further engagement amongst their year group.

Ideally we are looking for representatives from each year group, and particularly Pre-Prep.

If you would like to be involved, and can attend the AGM meeting, please can you email Louise Fairbrother (fairbrother.l@millfieldschool) to confirm your attendance. There will be more information to follow about the available committee roles which will be shared on Classlist.

## Medical Centre

We are seeing an increased number of day pupils coming to the Medical Centre instead of accessing their own GP services. The role of the Medical Centre is to support the physical and emotional wellbeing of our pupils and provide medical and pastoral care as required. The team of nurses are always happy to offer advice and will see acutely unwell and injured pupils throughout the school day.

The Medical Centre is not a substitution for a GP practice or dentist and cannot be used as such. GP's are responsible for ongoing medical care and are able to provide continuity of care for day pupils. The team of nurses do not have access to GP records for day pupils.

## Car Parking

We are aware that at times the junction into school and the top car park by reception, can be very busy. We have been working with the relevant authorities and our own Health & Safety team to address these arrangements, but please can parents continue to park carefully and considerately of others at all times.

## Karl Hopwood Talk Cancelled

The Parent Talk from Karl Hopwood at the Senior School on Monday 20 February has been cancelled. We are looking to rearrange the talk and will publicise the revised date once it has been confirmed.

## Road Closure

In case you are unaware, Glastonbury Council have announce the A361 road will be closed from 13 February for 10 days. For more information, please [click here](#).

# WORD OF THE WEEK

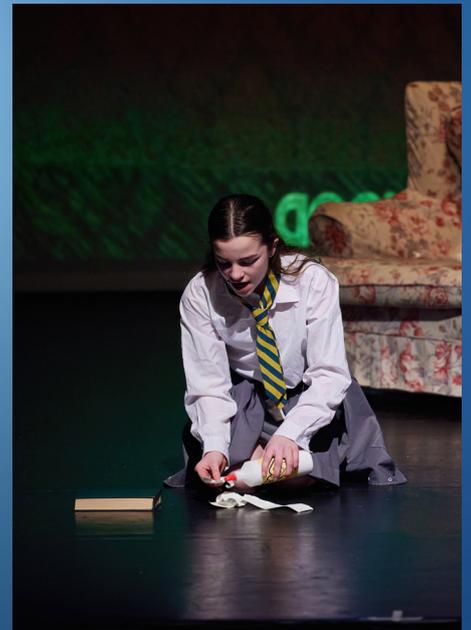
The first pupil to email Mrs Crispin (crispin.g@millfieldschool.com) with the correct answer, will win a merit and a small prize.

LATIN - robur

- a) ash tree      b) beech tree      c) oak tree

# MATILDA

Thank you to everyone who has been to watch Matilda this week, we hope you enjoyed the show! A massive congratulations to all of the staff and pupils involved in the production - it really was a spectacular musical. We will have the full album of photos on our socials soon!



Safer  
Internet  
Day 2023



On Tuesday 7 February we joined other schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2023. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and more to join together in helping to create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

We started the day with a whole school assembly focussing on this year's theme - 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. Conversations are a fantastic tool that help us all work better together, and the pupils were encouraged to talk to each other and to the adults in their lives about what they do online and why this is so important to them.

Being part of your child's digital life is very important and to help you have positive conversations on this hugely important topic, I thought the information below from the UK Safer Internet Centre might be of interest to you.

### **Be positive and open minded about the internet**

It's important to recognise the exciting opportunities that going online can offer children and young people. Although your children may use the internet differently to you, their experiences are still significant.

If your child mentions something you haven't heard of, ask them to show you, or explain in more detail, or you may need to do your own research. Try to keep conversations broad, and value their opinions when they're talking about what they enjoy doing, to show that you are interested in all aspects of their online world.

### **Talk early and often**

The most effective way to deal with any online issue is to make conversations about the internet a part of your everyday routine. Talking openly about life online from an early age, can be a helpful bridge to sharing safety messages and addressing more difficult conversations at a later date; it also shows your child that you are someone who knows about the internet and can help them.

### **Create a safe space for conversations**

Look for opportunities to talk together. Sometimes, talking face-to-face can feel difficult, so talking alongside each other when out for a walk, or travelling in the car for example, are options that might make it easier.

The environment needs to be right; free from distractions, so that your child has your undivided attention. Remind them often that they can talk to you about anything, no matter how difficult, and that they will not be judged or blamed. Your child might not be ready to talk about something straight away, so show them that you are there to listen whenever they are ready.

### **Keep it relevant**

As they get older, your children will use technology differently from when they first went online. Their knowledge and understanding will grow too, as will the challenges they may face on the internet.

To get a sense of how much they know and what support they still need, ask open-ended questions to let your child lead the conversations you have. There are appropriate ways to approach all online safety topics with different ages. For example, with a teenager, nude images can be spoken about in wider conversations around consent and healthy relationships. For younger children, you could discuss what types of images are okay to share online, and what areas of our bodies are private.

### **Be proactive**

Working together to create an agreement, outlining how the internet and technology will be used within the family, is a useful way to set clear expectations and boundaries for your children. You might include: time spent online, who your children can communicate with, appropriate apps and games, and why safety tools are helpful to block and report inappropriate content.

Ask your child what they would do if something went wrong online and they needed help, and reinforce the importance of telling an adult as soon as anything happens that makes them feel upset, worried, or uncomfortable in any way.

**Want to talk  
about it?**

Making space for conversations  
about life online



# FOOD TECH

This week in food studies Year 5 enjoyed making raspberry buns and the Year 8 pupils have enjoyed creating fresh pizza and learning about the role of carbohydrates in the human body.



Year 7 and 8 have just started a new project and are completing skills tests to help work out what sort of project they will be able to create. This is crossing links with maths - looking at measurements and area, as well as tool usage. The juniors have been working on some fantastic pirate ships, improving their workshop skills and looking at different tools and machines. In Year 5, pupils have been looking at sketching and how to make things look 3D when you are drawing out designs. Well done to everyone for all your hard work - please click [here](#) to have a little insight into what has been going on in the DT department this week.

## CARE HOME VISIT

On Tuesday 31 January, selected musicians were taken to the Anchor retirement community in Shepton Mallet to put on a concert for the residents. The pupils played and sang absolutely beautifully, and it was clear that everyone hugely enjoyed listening to the wide variety of music. We were treated to delicious cakes afterwards and had a wonderful time chatting to some of the residents. The pupils were a credit to themselves, the school and should be congratulated on their exemplary behaviour. Well done to the following:

**Tom B, Hugo B, Freddie G, Frederick H, Muna I, Amber J, Enid M, Lucia M M, Jason S and Laurie S.**



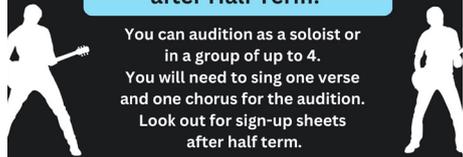


# ROCK & POP CONCERT



**Calling all Year 6, 7 & 8's  
Get Ready,  
Auditions are  
after Half Term!**

You can audition as a soloist or  
in a group of up to 4.  
You will need to sing one verse  
and one chorus for the audition.  
Look out for sign-up sheets  
after half term.



# SCREEN PRINTING

On Monday, a few classes were lucky enough to visit the art department at Millfield and take part in a screen printing workshop. They had prepared a colour background the week before and on Monday, they screen printed an image of the late Queen Elizabeth II over the top. They learned a lot about the printing process and really enjoyed their time at Millfield.



# FOREST FUN

Year 6 pupils enjoyed a Wednesday multi-activity session, making shelters in the sunny woods and working on their collaborative skills.



Year 8 were set the challenge of telling a story in just 100 words. Every word matters – so those words must be chosen with care and precision. Why not try writing your own 100 word story?

## A walk on the Beach - by **Ben B**

It was early one morning and I was on a leisurely walk along the sea front when it happened. Out of the corner of my eye, I spotted a glimmer in the ocean, so naturally I went over to have a look. And there it was, a magnificent treasure chest with gold on the rim and precious gems on the handle. It was spectacular. By this point other people had come over to see what I was staring at so I wanted to be the person to dive down and get it. But when I dived down it vanished.



## Roller Coaster - by **Emily H**

Sitting. Uncontrollably, unwillingly. It had been a steady climb up to the peak. Prior it had been a couple ups and downs, loops, twists, knots, spins, pretzels, coils, however this was the 'highlight' the 'best part' of the ride. It's the reason people came from miles and miles to see it. The drop. The let go. The release. They were nearing the top, a couple salty drops of sweat came trickling along faces, eyes started to shut and children grasped their mothers or fathers' hand. Suddenly, they were vertical, a split second, then they fell. Dropped. Plunged.



## My Darkest Regret- by **Joshua S**

Arthur saw a bioluminescent aura from behind the great pine and scouted behind him. He poked his head from the safety of the tree to see a solitary stag glowing like a firefly with a steady and gentle pulse. With a proud stance and the antlers gracefully balanced on top of its elegant stature. A rustle. The stag breathed heavily as it looked at its ribs to see an arrow shaft buried in its flesh. It fell. Darkness spread across its body a parasite of shadows. Arthur ran for his life. I still regret unleashing that arrow from my bow.

## His Final Gift - by **Freddie G**

Sunlight seeped through the curtains as Jimmy opened his eyes, peering at his bedside table. There, glittering in the morning light, sat the most amazing gift he'd ever received. It was his fifteenth birthday and he'd asked for a new watch, expecting to get a digital one with all the latest functions, but this went far beyond that. He hardly dared breathe as he gently lifted it up, feeling the cool kiss of the gold case against his skin. He slipped it on and a tear tumbled down his cheek. He would always treasure his grandfather's watch - his final gift.

## Uninvited - by **Vienna T**

It was a crisp night and there was not one soul around but hers. Every time she took a breath a small cloud streamed from her mouth and disappeared into the darkness. She reached her door and suddenly her heart dropped deep into her body. The door was ever so slightly open. 'Why was it open?' She wondered anxiously. Memories of locking the door that morning hurled through her mind as she gently creaked open the door and turned the lights on.

"Surprise!" Her friends and family screamed. As after all, it was her birthday.



# BOARDING LIFE

## CHAMPION

As we head towards half term, it's a moment to reflect on how many traditions we have here in Champion. For example, on a Monday, once all the duties are complete, the Year 8 (and occasionally Year 7) sit down for a cup of tea and a chat, a chance to pause. Likewise, the juniors usually gather on a sofa for a catch up and a few funny stories about their day. This week has been as busy as ever: we had a lovely lazy Saturday evening, chicken nuggets and chips surprise treat, followed by a Sunday morning lie-in. Exactly what the girls needed ahead of a day of Matilda rehearsals and activities. Our Valentine design in the common room is almost complete with lots of inspirational messages. Wishing all our Champion families a restful half term.



## CHESTNUT

After a busy few weeks, the boys are ready for half term. The final week has seen them settle down for a movie night, help with jobs around the house, play American Football on the court, prepare some special cards for next week and support the Chestnut boys who were performing in Matilda the Musical at the Meyer Theatre at Millfield. Also, the three boys who reached the top of our mountain reward chart were taken out for a treat meal as a reward for all of their hard work. They chose GBK for delicious burgers and thick shakes! It's exhausting just thinking about what they manage to cram in. They now have a weeks holiday to catch up with family and recharge before the second half of term.



## EDGARLEY MANOR

It has been a busy final week for our Edgerley Manor boys. They all loved building their own ciabatta pizzas over the weekend. They made the sauce from scratch, which included chopped onions, garlic, basil and mushrooms and then they topped with their own preferences. They were delicious! We have had lots of achievements over the week, with the boys coming back with various prizes and medals for sporting events, EAL and also for being kind. Well done, this makes us very proud! Time for a well-deserved rest.



## BEREWALL

Last weekend saw the start of one of the major sporting events of the year: The Berewall house table tennis and pool tournament! Matches were keenly contested, with very little controversy (honest!). The competition rolls on through with the first major upset still to come! We also saw the results of the first weekend of the house fantasy Six Nations, but Mr James isn't as high up in the league as he'd like so we won't talk about that!





## HOLLIES

The Matilda production has taken most of the girls' energy this week with rehearsals and practice with hair and make up. Many of the girls are involved in the final performances at the end of the week. The whole house enjoyed their trip to the Meyer Theatre at the Senior School to watch their friends perform. Other highlights this week have included the indoor scavenger hunt at the weekend, which required an inventive thought to find something 10ft long, and the Ceilidh dancing lesson – lots of fun for all!



## 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.



# BRILLIANT BOARDERS

## HOLLIES

**Lola** has been a brilliant boarder this term. She has been kind and thoughtful to other pupils and helped with jobs in the house while still maintaining her own busy schedule. She has rarely been without a smile this half term and is a great example for all.



## EDGARLEY MANOR

This term **Aleks** is our Brilliant Boarder! He has a positive attitude and is a polite and well-mannered young man. He impresses us daily with his organisation and independence. He is a fantastic asset to our house.



## CHESTNUT



## BEREWALL

The Berewall brilliant boarder for this half term is **Chase**. Since starting in September, Chase has worked very hard on his organisation and has found the day-to-day routine extremely beneficial. This is a well-deserved reward for his perseverance. Well done, Chase!



## CHAMPION

**Tabby** is Champion's Brilliant Boarder for this half term. Tabby only joined this term and has quickly settled in. She is very helpful around the house and has already made some very good friends. Definitely a Brilliant Boarder; well done Tabby!



The Chestnut brilliant boarder for this half term is **Ben**. He has shown true resilience transitioning from a flexi to a full-time boarder and should be proud of how well he's coped. He is always willing to help around the house, turning up for his duty on time and setting a good example to others. Well done Ben!

# SPORTING NEWS

## NETBALL

All of the U10 girls had a great afternoon at Queens College playing netball. Lots of smiles and they should be proud of their contribution to a great set of matches.



The U11B team played a great match against Queens College, Taunton. It was a difficult game and the girls had to work hard to win the ball. It was incredibly close, but the girls successfully won 8-6. Well done!



The U12 girls had an extremely strong start at the MPS tournament, winning against Dauntsey's and Wells. In the next round, they faced Hazlegrove, but unfortunately made too many errors and lost 5-4. The girls played in the second tier and had a good win against Kings Hall. Redmaids followed, which a very competitive and exciting watch, drawing 4-4. There is lots to work on, but the girls were a joy to be with throughout the day!



The U13C team took part in a quadrangular match at Sandroyd last Saturday. The girls really improved their play over the three matches against Sandroyd, Bryanston and finally Dauntsey's, beating Dauntsey's 7-2. The Millfield player of the quadrangular match was Karmele Muniategui.



Millfield hosted another U8 tournament on the weekend, it was fantastic to see so many of our players competing. Congratulations to **Isabella W.** for finishing runner-up and **Joshua G** for winning. Well played all!



Over the weekend, **Ollie W** played an U16 Grade 5 tournament. Ollie played really well and won the tournament. Congratulations! **Valentina B** also competed at an U14 Grade 3 regional event. Valentina played well and finished third overall. **Toby W** played in an U14 Grade. It was fantastic for him to be accepted into this tournament as he was competing against players two years older than him. A great experience for Toby and lots can be taken away from the weekend.



Over the weekend, **Louis W** won an U12 Grade 5 tournament. Well done Louis, great work.



# TABLE TENNIS

The U13 boys table tennis team finished second in the South of England finals last Saturday. Well done to the boys for an amazing effort and commitment to the sport. The U13 girls team also finished second in the South of England finals last Sunday. This is the first time that a girls team has represented the school in this National competition. Well done girls for your enthusiasm and commitment. The U11 boys finished third in the South of England Table tennis England finals last Sunday. The boys played very well and had a great time at the competition.



# TENNIS FUNDRAISER

**24 HOURS OF TENNIS**  
for Vicky Harris

Join us to raise money for Force Cancer Charity in honour of Vicky Harris

**Thursday 23rd February, 6pm - Friday 24th February, 6pm**

We are asking for volunteers to sign up to a timeslot to play tennis, have some fun and raise money for a good cause (NO skills required, just enthusiasm!)

For those of you with a little more time, there will be staff, parents and childrens tournaments so please sign up for some friendly competitive fun

**MPS Triple Courts**  
by the Shayler Pavilion

\*9pm - 8am in the sports hall for the hardcores night-shifters!

**24 HOURS OF TENNIS**  
for Vicky Harris

**Staff tournament:**  
Thursday 23rd Feb at 6pm, Champion courts

**Parents tournament:**  
Friday 24th Feb at 9am, Triple courts (next to the Shayler Pavilion)

**Finish 6pm with grand raffle draw in the Shayler Pavilion**

Refreshments, raffle donations and further information about the charity will be available and on display in the Shayler pavilion throughout the event

Please scan the QR codes to choose your preferred time (30 minute slots) and to sign up to take part in the tournament

24 Hours of Tennis

Staff Tournament

Parents Tournament

We are looking for **RAFFLE DONATIONS** however big or small! Whether that be an actual item, an unwanted Christmas gift, an offer of your services or something more exciting. **ANYTHING** is welcome! Please contact [robins.a@millfieldschool.com](mailto:robins.a@millfieldschool.com)

Please scan this QR code to donate to the JustGiving page and share as far and wide as you can once you have signed up

Everley S-D rode a brilliant test in her dressage competition in the overall U21 category. She received second place, just missing out on first by less than half a percent. A big congratulations to Everley and Diddles!



All of the Prep riders had a great day at the NSEA showjumping competition at Bicton and the smiles say it all!



If anyone is interested in some extra riding lessons during half term, or even trying riding for the first time, we are available during the break! Please contact [glynjones.h@millfieldschool.com](mailto:glynjones.h@millfieldschool.com) to book a place.

## PARENTS HOCKEY

In the time before Covid, there was a parents hockey session on Tuesday mornings at the Prep School from 9:00-10:15am. We are looking to start the sessions back up again next week!

The sessions are a great opportunity to have a catch up with other parents and a bit of a run around. You will be able to see what your son or daughter has to do on the Astro when they are playing! All abilities are very welcome. We have some sticks but please wear a gumshield.

Please park in the bottom car park and I will meet you at the pavilion. If you have any questions please email me, Adam Duke, at [duke.a@millfieldschool.com](mailto:duke.a@millfieldschool.com)

Hope to see you on Tuesday morning.



Over the past two weekends, Millfield Prep pupils competed alongside their Senior School counterparts at the South West Fencing Championships. These championships also acted as the qualifiers for the British Youth Championships in May. We had 16 qualifiers for the BYCs this year. A fantastic three days of fencing across all three disciplines: Foil, Epee and Sabre. With some fantastic fencing, teamwork, and results. Results were as follows:

U12 Girls Epee  
5th – **Eva D**

U12 Boys Sabre  
3rd – **Joe T**

U12 Girls Sabre  
2nd – **Eva D**  
3rd – **Maddie M**

U12 Boys Foil  
7th – **Joe T**

U14 Boys Epee  
3rd – **Hunter K**  
3rd – **Mateo E**  
6th – **Alex T**  
7th – **Jason S**  
9th – **Ibrahim**  
11th – **Gary G**

U14 Boys Sabre  
6th – **Jason S**  
8th – **Harry W**

U14 Boys Foil  
3rd – **Max E**  
5th – **Ibrahim**  
6th – **Hunter K**  
9th – **Jason S**



# SWIMMING

Well done to the MPS swimmers who have competed in the second and third weekend of the Somerset County Swimming Championships. The weekends have been filled with awesome skills, excellent execution of race plans and step ups from heats to finals. We move onto our fourth and final weekend, good luck swimmers!



The South West Championships saw some of our runners gaining their first Somerset vests. We also had some returning for the second vest after their performances last year. **Connor P** and **Bea S** were in the Year 7 race, whilst **Hope L** and **Vienna T** were in the Year 8 and 9 race, aiming to qualify for the National Finals. Bea had another dominant victory and is running strongly at the moment (she also raced the day after in the Northern Indoor Championships). Over the course of two days she became the champion of the south west and then followed this up with becoming the champion of the north! Connor ran in a tough group and he gained valuable experience for next season. In the Year 8 and 9 race, Vienna and Hope were racing against athletes who were a year older. We await official confirmation of the team for the National Finals.



# FOOTBALL

Millfield Prep U13A, B and C faced Millfield U14B, C and D at the Prep School in perfect football conditions. The U13Bs were the team of the day, playing attractive football when in possession and playing fearlessly out of possession. Stand out performances from **Jacobo**, **Monty** and **Guille**.

The U10s welcomed Elmhurst on Tuesday, the U8 and 9 boys and girls travelled to Baltonsborough on Wednesday and on Thursday, the U11 boys and girls travelled to St Benedict's and Brookside respectively. A superb week of football!





# NEWSLETTER



## MESSAGE FROM MR JORY

I cannot believe we are half way through the year! It has been incredibly busy and the children continue to work with enthusiasm and energy, even in the colder weather. We are always so proud of everything they achieve in and out of the classroom and outside of school. The children have really enjoyed sharing their achievements and successes in our celebration assembly on Fridays. Please bring in any trophies, medals or certificates to share.

This week in assembly we learnt about being safe on the internet; through songs, videos and discussions. We re-emphasised the importance of not clicking on pop-ups, keeping passwords private, playing appropriate aged games, who to send messages to, follow the internet rules and to always ask an adult if unsure. We also took a step back in time, as we learnt more about recycling with *The Wombles*. Ask your children about *The Wombles* and how they re-use items they have collected. Maybe watch a few episodes over the half term holiday. We are looking forward to seeing all of your recycling creations after half term, which will be judged on Thursday 23 February.

Frogs, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 went to Senior School on Thursday to watch *Matilda* in the Meyer Theatre. It was amazing! Well done to everyone who had a part to play in putting on such an amazing production and a huge thankyou for inviting us. A great way to end the half term!

During the half term holidays, Mr Young is getting married and I know you will join me in wishing him all the happiness for the future. Thank you again for your continued support and we look forward to sharing your children's learning and continue to celebrate all of their successes. Enjoy the break with your family and I look forward to hearing all about it when we return.

Best wishes,  
Mr Jory



## MUSIC WORKSHOP



## KEY DATES

**Thursday 23 February**  
Judging of Recycled Creations

**Thursday 2 March**  
World Book Day  
Children to dress up as book characters

**Friday 17 March – 2pm**  
Mother's Day Celebration

# TADPOLES COOKERY

We used some oats for messy play this week and some of the Tadpoles said we could use them to make flapjacks. We decided this was a great idea so we looked in our recipe book and found what other ingredients we would need. Everyone helped measure out the ingredients and give it a stir. We all had a taste of the yummy flapjacks when they were cooked and had enough to send some home for everyone to try. Thank you to the team in the kitchen for supplying the ingredients.



# ICE CATCHER

After playing with the ice that had formed outside, we decided to make our own ice catchers. Each child found a small plastic toy to fit in a bowl, filled the bowl with water and left them outside on the patio. We were very excited to see if our ice catchers had frozen overnight. However, when we looked, the top part of the catcher had frozen, but there was still some water underneath. This sparked a discussion about why this had happened. Did we have too much water, not enough water, had the ice catchers already started to melt, or was it not cold enough? The children made more ice catchers to investigate. After this investigation we discovered that less water in our pots froze the water completely. We also had ideas that if it was even colder the deeper water might also have frozen.



# BIRD FEEDER

We have had some visitors to our bird feeder this week. Two robins, some sparrows, crows and a blackbird have certainly enjoyed eating the seed balls! The children have been quietly watching the birds from the bird hide and get very excited when they come to visit.



## RECEPTION

# THE ADVENTURES OF SNOWY THE PENGUIN

From the magical egg, a Penguin was born! The children were very excited to give the penguin a name. The children voted on whether the penguin was a boy or a girl and what they would like to call it...Snowy the girl penguin was born! We brainstormed what the children would like to learn and find out about penguins and where we would like to take the learning.



Then following our trip to the vets, Mrs Smith's daughter brought in her dog, Shadow. The children practiced bandaging him and grooming him. Well done children, he was very well cared for.



## RECEPTION PENGUINS

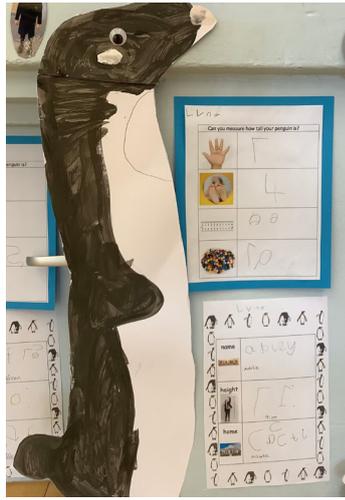
In Reception, our learning has been focused on penguins. First of all, the children chose their favourite penguin and painted a life size replica. They really focused on the details on each penguin.



The children then found out different ways to measure the penguins. They used their hands, feet, tape measure and unifix. After they had their measurements, they then recorded their findings.



Reception then wrote facts about their penguin and we displayed them in the hall in height order. We are very proud of their finished work. Please pop in to have a look!



## RECEPTION DISCOVERY DOME

The Reception class were also very lucky to be invited to the push and pull dome to discover all about forces. They had lots of fun and it was very exciting, the pupils even made their very own rockets using dry ice.



# TOPIC SHOWCASE

Year 1 and Year 2 had their parents in for the afternoon on Wednesday to showcase their topic work on pushes and pulls. It was lovely to see the children explaining their learning to their parents and continuing to work on activities with their friends. Lots of smiles and laughter in KS1!





# MINIS NEWS



## MINIS BIRD WATCH

The Minis were super busy this week, using their bird hide and binoculars to spot different birds. They made a bird feeder to hang up in their garden at home and turned a paper cup into a bird with very colourful feathers! There was much banging with hammers pretending to be woodpeckers and we enjoyed feeding our rather large and greedy birds wiggly worms and furry caterpillars. When building nests, the Minis chose their materials carefully, thinking about the properties and also decided which bird their nest was for. Well done Minis!

