#883
12 SEPTEMBER 2025

MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

It has been fantastic to see how quickly the school has not only come back to life but also reached its familiar fast pace and jam-packed days! I have enjoyed meeting as many new pupils as I can around the campus, as well as re-connecting with those who have been here for some time.

It has been wonderful to watch the full range of activities getting back online and, as you would expect, it has been a busy time on the sports front as lots of teams have been playing their first warm up fixtures. Well done to all those children (and staff) who took part in the Fun Runs this week and last…I definitely haven't recovered yet!

Already approaching swiftly on the horizon is Exeat next weekend. Ahead of that we have our Harvest Festival Service led by our Spiritual Director, James Stephenson - you are all warmly invited. We also look forward to hosting an information session for parents of pupils in Years 6 and 7 about their new managed iPads and some software that can help you with management of their devices at home – do look out for an email with further details.

Have a lovely weekend when it arrives. I know the boarders are really excited about their trip to Weston Grand Pier – I hope you've got something enjoyable planned too.

Yours,
Dan

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PARENT NOTICES

Managed Device information session

Friday 19 September

Following the introduction of managed devices for Years 6 and 7, we would like to invite all parents to an information session focusing on how the devices will work at school and at home.

The meeting will take place in the Pavilion from 10.15-11.00am on Friday 19 September, prior to the Harvest Service which starts at 11.15am in the Sports Hall.

To help us prepare and address as many areas as possible, we kindly ask that you confirm your attendance and submit any questions in advance via this form. Your participation and input will be greatly appreciated.

Harvest Service

Friday 19 September

We are delighted to invite parents and guardians to our Harvest Service on Friday 19 September, which is being held in the Sports Hall from 11.15am-12.00pm. Pupils will need to wear formal uniform, including a blazer.

If you are attending the Harvest Service please can you park (and collect) from the following car parks:

Years 3-6 parents - please use the Pavilion car park and then walk up to the Sports Hall. Your child will return to their classroom with their group tutor after the Service, please can you collect them from Martins Lane.

Years 7-8 parents - please use the Reception car park where possible and the Pavilion car park once the Reception car park is full. Your child will return to their classroom with their group tutor after the Service, please can you collect them from the Reception car park.

Exeat Weekend

Friday 19 September

The school will shut at 12 noon on Friday 19 September for exeat weekend. There will be no clubs, activities, games, late stay, or school buses (please make alternative pick up arrangements).

For those not attending the Harvest Service please can you arrive at your allocated time slots for year groups and not before, otherwise the campus will become blocked. Please drive carefully as traffic is likely to be high on 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.

Pre-Prep – 12.00pm Top car park
Year 3 – 12.00pm Martins Lane
Year 4 – 12.00pm Martins Lane
Year 5 – 12.15pm Martins Lane
Year 6 – 12.15pm Martins Lane
Year 7 – 12.00pm Reception car park
Year 8 – 12.15pm Reception car park
Boarders – 12pm Boarding Houses



Collection for Harvest Service

Pupils will be collecting items for the local Food Bank as part of the Harvest Service. Please can pupils bring in items and give them to their group tutor week commencing 15 September 2025. Items in short supply at the Food Bank are:

- Long-life Fruit Juice (orange, apple, pineapple)
- Jam
- Peanut Butter
- Pasta Sauce
- Tinned and Packet Soup
- Baked Beans
- Tinned Vegetables peas, carrots, sweetcorn, green beans, tomatoes
- Tinned Puddings sponge puddings, custard, rice pudding and similar

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Uniform after Exeat

Winter uniform will need to be worn after Exeat, with all pupils required to wear a tie. Shorts are still permitted.



YEAR 7 RELIGIOUS STUDIES TRIP

The Glastonbury Pilgrimage



Thursday 18 September: **All students in Year 7**
Depart school at **9.00am (after registration)**
Return to school at **4.00 in time for clubs**

Why are we going on this trip?

The purpose of this trip is to explore the religious history and current religious profile of our local area. Students will visit Glastonbury Abbey with a guided tour, the local Mosque, St. John's Anglican Church, St. Mary's Catholic Church, The Goddess Temple, the almshouses and St. Margaret's chapel. We will be able to ask questions and explore sacred spaces in Glastonbury, and this information will be used in the Religious Studies lessons later this term when looking at religion in the UK today.

What do I need to wear?

School games kit – long trousers please, trainers and school coat. We will be outside all day, in all kinds of weather.
Please bring a waterproof jacket as well.

What do I need to bring?

- A small **rucksack** (you need your hands free to draw and make notes).
- A **water bottle** – We are doing a lot of walking and you will get thirsty. Your water bottle should only have water in it.
- If the weather forecast predicts hot weather, you will need **sun cream** and a **cap.**
- You will need a pencil or a pen for the day.
- You will pick up a packed lunch in the morning after registration.

Anything else I need to know?

No electronics/iPads/Phones.
If necessary, any hayfever tablets or other medication must be taken before we leave.
If you have an inhaler and/or epipen, you must bring them with you.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Mrs. L. Brooke (Head of Religious Studies) Brooke.l@millfieldschool.com

YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY TRIP

The Jurassic Coast



Tuesday 16 September: **8TH, 8NE, 8IN, 8JA**
Thursday 18 September: **8HK, 8SI, 8PH**
Depart school at **8.30am**
Return to school at **5.00pm**

Why are we going on this trip?

The purpose of this trip is to support the teaching of the geography topic, 'Coasts.' We will spend the day learning about how the sea is responsible for shaping the coastline at Lulworth Cove and Durdle Door, as well as looking at the impact of tourism in the area.

What do I need to wear?

School games kit, trainers and school coat. We will be outside all day, in all kinds of weather.

What do I need to bring?

- A small **rucksack** (you need your hands free to draw fieldsketches and make notes).
- A **water bottle – very important!**We are doing a lot of walking and you will get thirsty. Your water bottle should only have water in it.
- If the weather forecast predicts hot weather, you will need **sun cream** and a **cap.**
- You will be given a clipboard and a pencil on the day.

Anything else I need to know?

No electronics/iPads/Phones.
If necessary, travel sickness/hayfever tablets must be taken before we leave.
If you have an inhaler and/or epipen, you must bring them with you.

Miss A. McConnell (Head of Geography).

YEAR 8 ART TRIP

National Museum of Wales, Cardiff



Tuesday 16 September: **8PH, 8Si, 8HK**
Thursday 18 September: **8NE, 8TH, 8IN, 8JA**
Registration with GT: **8.25am**
Depart school at **8.30am**
Return to school at **5.00pm**

Why are we going on this trip?

To look at and draw from original great works by the likes of Monet, Van Gogh etc.

What do I need to wear?

School Formal uniform. Bring a coat to wear or sit on if wet (we will be eating lunch outside).

What do I need to bring?

- A small **rucksack** (For your lunch, your drawing equipment, water bottle etc).
- **A water bottle** – very important! We are not providing you with water. You can refill in the museum.
- Colour pencils or felt tips, rubber, sharpener (we will provide you with a 2B drawing pencil).

Anything else I need to know?

No electronics/iPads/Phones.
If necessary, travel sickness/hayfever tablets must be taken before we leave.
If you have an inhaler and/or epipen, you must bring them with you.
No money or sweets.

Mr Maxwell (Head of Art).

BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES

We celebrated **Martha's** birthday in style this week, complete with balloons, cake and lots of smiles from her Hollies sisters. Our first weekend together was packed with fun – treasure hunts and s'mores in the forest, a High School Musical movie night, and plenty of time spent hanging out on the tree trail and the brand-new swings, not to mention more lively family challenges. We were especially proud to see **Zara P** recognised by staff this week for her kindness and helpfulness around the house – a true example of Hollies' spirit. The girls have also impressed us with their achievements on the sports pitches and in their High School Musical auditions. Hollies girls are absolutely smashing it, and we couldn't be more proud!













CHESTNUT

It has been another busy and exciting week here in Chestnut. The girls are really getting into the swing of routines and are enjoying throwing themselves into their varying activities and clubs. Saturday evening, we had a whole house family movie night, where the girls snuggled up with tuck and watched High School Musical in preparation for this year's MPS production. They also got to experience their first slow Sunday, with a chilled morning in house, with some of the girls making cosy dens in their dorms and an afternoon of activities onsite including campfire building and toasting marshmallows in the Forest School. This week saw two birthday celebrations, for **Sam** and **Elle C**, which involved delicious pizza, sushi, chocolate cake, cupcakes, donuts and two mega piñatas! Team Chestnut have been truly spoilt, and we've loved celebrating the birthdays together.













BEREWALL

The Berewall boys have spent the week learning the house routines, enjoying their new timetables, and dodging the heavy showers. The muddy sports kits have been a sight to see when they appear to the house laundry. Luckily, the matrons have been there to save the day! The weekend was a very welcome opportunity to relax after the first week. On Saturday evening, the boys enjoyed chicken tacos and a movie, followed by a nice lie in and lazy Sunday morning in house. We were quickly back in our stride on Sunday evening, getting organised for the week ahead. We are fully up to speed now, with early morning swimming, fencing and tennis sessions…and the same after school. With all this in mind, the boys are working on getting as much down time and sleep as possible. As we race to the weekend, we look forward to seeing some of our boys in action on Saturday, before an exciting boarders' trip on Sunday. Have a great weekend all!









CHAMPION

The week has flown by and the boys are now in full swing with all of their clubs and activities. We announced our new Head of House for the Autumn term: congratulations to **Rhydian**! We have no doubt he will be a strong and positive leader and role model. On Sunday the boys took part in a range of activities including using the climbing wall, s'mores on the fire and indoor sports. Between the rain the boys have managed to get out to the tree trail and also for some football on the astro in the evenings. We have celebrated some birthdays this week with some lovely birthday treats such as doughnuts, pizza and cake! Happy birthday to **Cole, Folarin** and **Folami**!











SPORTING NEWS

HOCKEY

The U12 girls' hockey squad started the season with 30 girls playing lots of matches in the MPS tournament. We welcomed pupils from Monkton Combe, King's College, Queen's College and Redmaids' High School to play in an A and B tournament with MPS entering two teams in the B team tournament. The day was a great success with everyone getting lots of pitch time, lots of chances to improve and work on their game and have plenty of fun with their friends. The A team came second, finishing the top scorers in the group and really starting to come together as a team in the last couple of games. The MPS Edgarley and Champion B teams competed well with Edgarley finishing first and Champion finishing third showing great strength in depth. Well done to all involved for a great start to the hockey season.







WATERPOLO

Ozzy V represented Somerset Water Polo at Millfield School last week.



EQUESTRIAN

Everley has had a brilliant couple of months expanding her knowledge and training in Wellington, Florida with some prominent riders.

Everley is also going to ride this coming weekend at the Le Mieux National Championships at Somerford Park. She is also pleased to share that she will represent Great Britain again in October in the FEI pony class.



HOCKEY

U11 girls' played their first matches on Wednesday vs Clifton College. Great team spirit and lots of happy faces.





NETBALL

Individual/group netball private lessons available.

Zoe Graham, the netball intern has a wealth of netball knowledge on offer. She has played at an international level for the Republic of Ireland and has coached within the London Pulse pathway. She is offering private individual or group sessions, to get pupils ready for the netball season next term. If your child is interested, please do contact Zoe on: **graham.z@millfieldschool.com**

GOLF

It was a busy summer of golf for **Georgie** with some great successes. She has played in lots of ladies' competitions and she is through to two knockout finals to be in with a chance to win two major ladies' trophies at her local club. She has also represented her club's ladies' section in four key events competing against other clubs in Somerset.

She has also had some great success at Junior Opens - she won the girls' nett at West Wilts, she won the mixed U12's and nearest to pin at Thornbury, she won the girls' gross at Wheathill and the girls' gross and longest drive at Isle of Wedmore.









SCUBA DIVING

Dive into Adventure with our Discover Scuba Taster Session for Years 6, 7 and 8!
Are you ready to explore the underwater world and experience something truly unique?
We're offering an exciting Discover Scuba taster lesson on Sunday 9 November, for pupils in Years 6, 7, and 8. This 1.5-hour session will give you a chance to dive into the basics of scuba diving.
No prior experience is needed—just a sense of adventure!

Why Join?
- Hands-On Experience: Get a feel for what scuba diving is like!
- Step Towards Certification: This taster session is a perfect introduction to our full course, which can lead to a PADI certification.
- Limited Spaces: With only a few spots available, be sure to secure your place early!

Session Details:
- Date: Sunday 9 November
- Time: 1.5-hour session
- Cost: £77 (charged via the fees office)

Don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind opportunity to dive into something new!
Reserve your spot by completing the form on the Parent Portal.

Scuba Diving Adventure for Years 4 and 5!
Does your child dream of underwater exploration? We're excited to offer a special Bubble Maker Scuba taster lesson this term.

This course will build confidence and introduce the fundamentals of scuba diving through exciting games and activities. It's perfect for young adventurers looking to dive into something new!

Taster Session Details:
- Date: Sunday 9 November
- Time: 1.5-hour session
- Who Can Join: Pupils in Years 4 and 5
- Cost: £77

Why Join?
- Boost Confidence: Students will gain new skills while building their self-assurance underwater.
- Fun Learning: Games and activities will make learning scuba diving enjoyable.

Spaces are limited, so secure your spot today by completing the form on the Parent Portal.





Discover something amazing

Is your child looking for their next adventure?

We want all pupils to find their sporting passion and be able to achieve their potential.

This term your child will have the option to try scuba diving with our local PADI 5-Star Diver Training Centre, Dive Academy. Dive Academy are a PADI Approved Youth Training Centre with experience in teaching children and young adults to scuba dive.

Discover Scuba isn't a certfication course, although there will be the opportunity to continue on a programme that is suitable for their year group which is open to those who wish to continue.

In a scuba diving experience in the safety and comfort of our school pool, pupils will learn the basic safety guidelines and skills needed to dive under the direct supervision of a PADI Professional.

Following a short briefing they'll spend an hour in the pool using scuba gear and picking up the basics of swimming and breathing underwater including some great underwater games.



Discover Scuba is also a great way to find out about the next steps such as PADI Seal Team or PADI Open Water Diver.

The session includes use of all equipment. No experience with scuba diving is necessary but your child does need to be comfortable in the water.

MILLFIELD PREP SCHOOL

DIVE ACADEMY

www.dive.academy

Be the coolest!

The PADI Bubblemaker experience is as fun as it sounds – a chance for children to blow bubbles and try scuba diving. We're pleased to be able to offer this experience at Millfield Preparatory School later this term.

Bubblemakers will:

- ☑ Experience scuba diving under the direct care and supervision of a PADI Instructor
- ☑ Take their first breaths underwater and experience weightlessness
- ☑ Learn about and use scuba diving equipment made for children – not adults
- ☑ Play games such as underwater egg and spoon
- ☑ Have lots of fun

If the PADI Bubblemaker experience inspires your child to learn more about scuba diving and the amazing underwater world, the next step is five fun-filled AquaMissions in PADI Seal Team.

Can they do it?

www.dive.academy

Bubblemaker® PADI padi.com

To complete Bubblemaker your child needs to be aged 8-9 years old and reasonably fit and well.

No experience with scuba diving is necessary but they do need to be comfortable in the water.

All equipment is supplied, and they'll take away a certificate to celebrate their achievement.

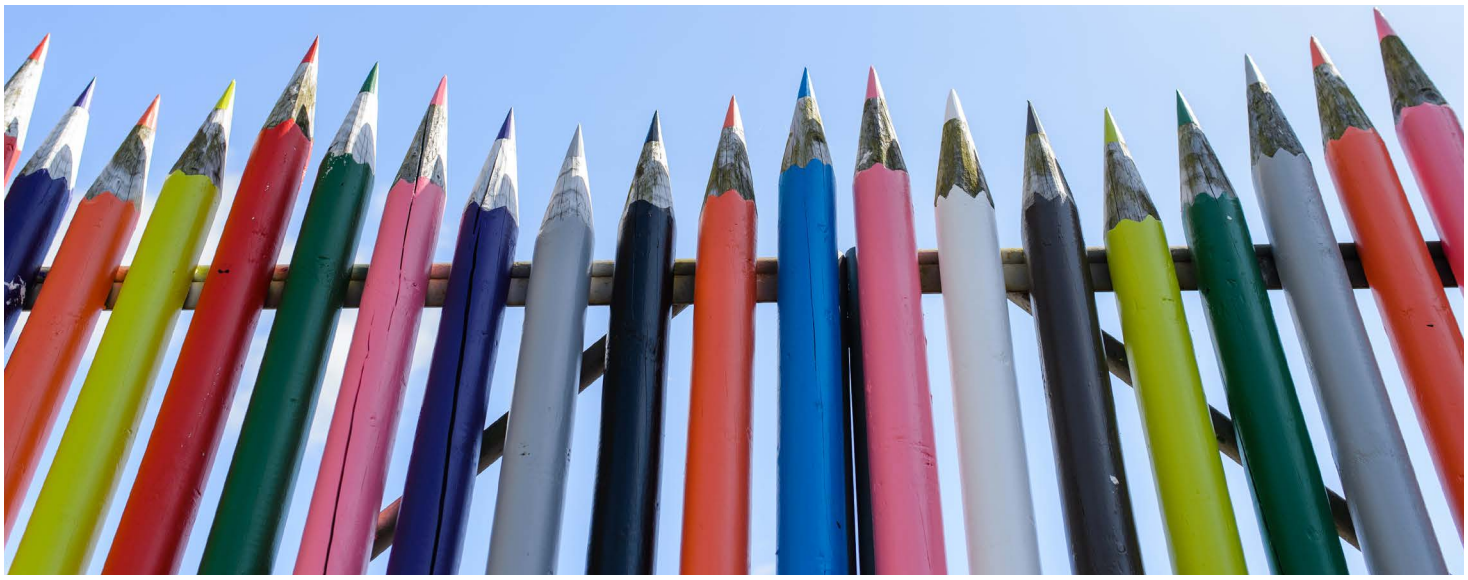
DIVE ACADEMY

MILLFIELD PREP SCHOOL

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MILLFIELD
PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

Summer has most definitely made way for autumn this week, with dark skies, rolling thunder, and dramatic flashes of lightning lighting up the sky, a truly spectacular sight, especially viewed from beneath the Tor. The children were fascinated, counting the gaps between flashes and rumbles to see how far away the storm was. The children enjoyed the storm but loved the puddles!

In Forest School, the children have been keeping their eyes peeled for the first signs of autumn. From changing leaves to hidden acorns and conkers, there's been so much to discover and explore. Indoors, the sound of singing has filled the classrooms as we've started learning our harvest song in preparation for next week's Harvest celebration.

We're very much looking forward to welcoming all families to this special celebration. A huge thank you in advance for your kind donations to the local food bank, your generosity makes a real difference to families in our wider community.

Best wishes,
Mike

KEY DATES

Harvest Festival on **Thursday 18 September** in the Prep Assembly Hall

2.00pm – Refreshments

2.30pm – Harvest Festival Assembly

Harvest Collection

We would also be most grateful for any food donations to support our local food bank. Please ensure items are non-perishable and drop them off at the Prep Reception by **Monday 15 September.**

Exeat weekend

Friday 19 September

School finishes at **12.00pm**

PRE-PREP

HOUSE TOTALS

HOUSE	ANGLES	DANES	JUTES	SAXONS
OVERALL	142	144	146	130

TADPOLES

FOREST SCHOOL

The Tadpoles had their first visit of the year to Forest School this week. They had a lovely time exploring, walking through the leaves, looking for bugs, and finding sticks. We look forward to many more











FROGS

LISTENING EARS!

This week the Frogs have been on a listening walk to see what sounds they could hear around the Pre-Prep. We put on our 'listening ears' and walked very quietly. We heard birds, children playing, a lawnmower, a whistle and a bell. We finished by playing a game of 'I spy'. Great work Frogs.





RECEPTION

SETTLING IN

The Reception class have had an amazing first two weeks settling into their new environment. What fun we have had, we can't wait to see where this year will take us.






















YEAR 1

INDEPENDENT CHALLENGES

Year 1 have had a super week and are quickly getting used to the new routines and expectations. We have introduced the independent challenges around the room, which need to be completed during choosing time. I have been thrilled with how impressive their independent learning has been. Well done, Year 1.







