#903
20 MARCH 2026

MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

The reappearance of the sun in the last couple of days really has helped lift the mood and keep the energy levels high here at Millfield Prep in what has been another action-packed week.

There have been a huge number of fixtures and tournaments as various seasons come towards a conclusion and it has been great to see sports like fencing, cross country and indoor rowing enjoying their 'big' events of the term. Congratulations to our pupils who were part of the wider Millfield squad competing at the Public Schools Fencing Championships – we are so proud to hear that they finished as overall champions, extending this accolade to a 13th consecutive year! We round off the week hosting the Millfield Sevens tournament which is always a highlight.

Mr Guthrie reminded us in assembly on Monday about the importance of diversity to the Millfield Prep community, with a really powerful demonstration of how it can sometimes be very hard to feel different from others. I have always felt we are extremely lucky here because of the huge diversity among our pupil body but it was a very helpful nudge to us all that diversity in a community does not automatically equal inclusivity. I look forward to building on this theme during the rest of the year.

Have a relaxing weekend when it arrives.

Yours,
Dan

CONTENTS

Page 2
Parent Notices

Page 3
Red Nose Day

Page 4
Extreme Reading Challenge

Page 5-7
Subject Focus

Page 8-9
Boarding Life

Page 10-11
Sporting News

Page 12-14
Pre-Prep Newsletter

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is by **Matilda R** in Year 7.





Millfield Prep and Pre-Prep does not tolerate any harassment in any form towards our pupils/staff

PARENT NOTICES

PCC Coffee Morning - Tuesday 31 March

The PCC team will be hosting a coffee morning and would love to see you there. We're also delighted that Julie White, Head of Learning Support at Millfield will be coming over to share a few thoughts on transition to the Senior School for our PCC pupils, followed by a short Q&A.

It will be a lovely chance to connect and ask any questions about transition.

We look forward to seeing you there.

PFA Coffee Morning - Wednesday 1 April

PFA will be hosting a coffee morning on Wednesday 1 April in the Pavilion from 08.30-10.30am. Please do come and join us.

Easter Service - Wednesday 1 April

We are delighted to invite parents and guardians to our Easter Service on Wednesday 1 April, which is being held in the Sports Hall from 11.15am-12.00pm. Light refreshments will be available in the Sports Hall from 10.45am. Please follow the parking signs.

Pupils will need to wear formal uniform, including a blazer.

Please can parents 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.

Save the Date - Saturday 13 June 2026

Millfield Prep Parents & Friends Association bring you OUTDOOR CINEMA on Ostrich Green!

Keep your eyes open for more exciting details to come…



RED NOSE DAY





















Millfield Prep and Pre-Prep does not tolerate any harassment in any form towards our pupils/staff

EXTREME READING CHALLENGE

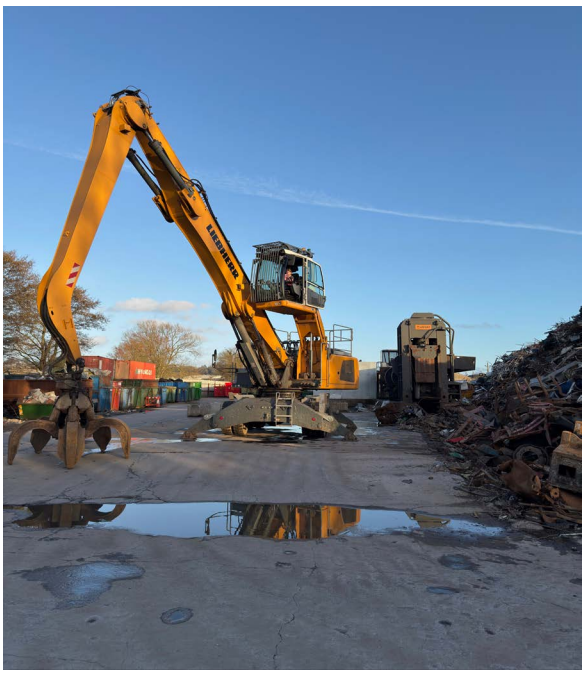
With this being the National Year of Reading, it was so wonderful to see the whole school involvement with World Book Day earlier this month, and the huge amount of entries for the Extreme Reading Challenge, set over half-term. Here are a few of the entries from this, keep up the reading people!















YEAR 4 TRIP TO LYME REGIS

This week, Year 4 had the most wonderful trip to Lyme Regis to walk in the footsteps of Mary Anning. To complement our English unit of work on 'Stone Girl, Bone Girl' we travelled to the Lyme Regis Museum to learn more about the amazing discoveries in the area. The highlight of the trip was the fossil hunting walk led by our expert guide from the museum. Everyone came home with either an ammonite or a belemnite. We also had time for an ice cream before we left! Prior to the trip Ms. McConnell came to share her geographical knowledge of the area and share one of her favourite books on Mary Anning. We were also lucky to have her join us with her expertise on the trip. A marvellous day had by all!
















Millfield Prep and Pre-Prep does not tolerate any harassment in any form towards our pupils/staff

ART

This week, some Year 6 pupils enjoyed a visit to the Atkinson Gallery at Millfield to see and draw from their interesting exhibition 'Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: 90 Years of Jazz and Surrealism'.





RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

In Year 7 this term, the pupils have been looking at Judaism and considering different interpretations of stories from The Talmud, as well as considering the importance of the covenant for Jewish people. We have also been looking at different Jewish teachings, such as the 13 principles of Jewish faith, written in the 12th century by Rabbi Moses ben Maimon, and how they might be understood by different people. The pupils used what they know about Judaism to write down what they thought each statement might mean and looked at it from different perspectives.

In Year 8, the pupils have been learning about different moral philosophers including Aristotle, Immanuel Kant, John Stuart Mill, Frantz Fanon and Carol Gilligan. They have considered different real-life examples of where such ethics have been applied and considered different applications of ethical theories.

YEAR 8 SPORTS LEADERS

The Year 8 sports leaders teamed up with the Year 9 sports leaders for World Book Day to transform the sports hall into the Gruffalo's forest. The pupils from pre-prep and other children from local primary schools were led through the activities that incorporated different balancing, ball and movement skills as well as being treated to story time with the Gruffalo itself! It was a great way for the sports leaders to demonstrate their skills in creating activities for younger pupils. There was a lot of fun had by all!













FOOD TECHNOLOGY

This week, pupils explored sources of protein, with chicken (or alternatives) featured in each dish.
Our younger pupils made tasty fajitas, Year 7 prepared and plated colourful stir fry, and Year 8 created crispy chicken burgers.
It has been wonderful to see pupils developing their cooking skills and confidence in the kitchen. Here are some of this week's highlights.













BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES

Week 10 has brought sunshine, celebration and some fantastic achievements.
We were delighted to celebrate **Faye's** 13th birthday last week, made even more special by the delicious lemon drizzle cake she baked with her mum and brought in to share as a post-Exeat treat.
It has also been wonderful to welcome back some of our travelling stars. **Sammy** returned from the senior school ski trip having been commended for her impressive giant slalom skiing — a fantastic achievement. **Tabby** has also been back on the slopes and did not disappoint, wowing us all with some truly death-defying jumps on the Winter Olympic course!
Meanwhile, **Izzy** has returned as champion of the Chew Valley tennis tournament, competing against players significantly older than her — an incredible accomplishment that we are hugely proud of.
With the weather improving so dramatically this week, we have made the most of the sunshine, including some lovely volleyball sessions outdoors, which have been a real highlight of the afternoons and evenings.
The celebrations continue, as we have four more birthdays coming up later this week and over the weekend. Photos of our birthday girls will be shared on Instagram and included in next week's newsletter — lots more cake and cheer to come!
Finally, we hope all our wonderful mums had a truly special and well-deserved Mother's Day last weekend.
Another brilliant week in Hollies — long may the sunshine continue!











CHESTNUT

It's been a joyful and energetic week in the House, full of celebration, creativity, and fresh air fun. We started by celebrating **Masha's** birthday, marked with much loved Krispy Kreme donuts. The girls enjoyed sharing sweet treats together and making the day feel extra special. Happy birthday **Masha.** We also embraced St Patrick's Day, getting into the festive spirit with green pancakes and creative craft sessions making four leaf clover bunting, which brought lots of colour and cheer to the House. With the sunshine making a welcome appearance, the girls made the most of being outdoors — enjoying football, spontaneous dance routines, and plenty of laughter and movement in the fresh air. Snack time brought extra smiles as the girls created fun fruit faces before tucking in. Another lovely week filled with fun, friendship, and shared moments in Chestnut.













Millfield Prep and Pre-Prep does not tolerate any harassment in any form towards our pupils/staff

BEREWALL

The Berewall boys returned from the well-deserved Exeat to sunshine and spring in the air. It has been great to be able to spend their free time outside in the sunshine, playing together. It is not completely dry just yet, as **James** and **Seb** discovered when Mrs C sent them to the laundry to wash their socks!! They did a great job and learned a life skill in the process. On Tuesday, we all celebrated **Kona's** 12th birthday. Big smiles, loud singing, and birthday cake made it a lovely occasion surrounded with friends. The sunsets have been as spectacular as ever with some budding photographers taking advantage. **Seb** appeared on Wednesday with a stunning photo of the stars over the tor, we hope this will inspire our boys to take more and keep a look out for the perfect shot! We have missed **Zitian** this week, as he has been competing in the national Fencing championships, and we waved goodbye this morning to **Gruff, Toby** and **Monty,** who are away overnight to represent school. Good luck boys.








CHAMPION

Our Champion boys have been buzzing with energy since returning from the exeat weekend, making the most of both indoor and outdoor spaces. Chess has been a firm favourite, sparking concentration and friendly rivalry. Outside, there's been no shortage of active play, with everyone enjoying the fresh air and space to run around. It's been brilliant to see the boys mixing across different year groups and playing with each other. With the weather starting to improve, the boys are making the most of every sunny moment!





SPORTING NEWS

NETBALL





U13 IAPS Netball National Finals – Tournament Report
The team travelled to the IAPS Netball National Finals at Rugby school full of determination and excitement, ready to compete against some of the strongest prep school sides in the country. From the very first match, the squad showed impressive teamwork, resilience, and skill, producing a series of excellent performances to reach the final of the competition.
The tournament began with a confident 12–5 victory over Mill Hill & Belmont. The team settled quickly, moving the ball well through the court and defending strongly to take control of the game. **Lowri** stood out with her tireless work rate, impressive speed, and pinpoint passing, making a huge impact on the team's performance throughout the match. This momentum continued into the next match, where they defeated St Mary's Melrose 10–4, with **Eloise** and **Rosabella** stepping up the level of intensity and helping to push the team forward with their determination and composure.
A tighter contest followed against Brighton College Handcross. In a competitive and fast-paced game, the team held their nerve to secure a 9–7 win, demonstrating composure under pressure. Another strong performance came against IAPS Kenya, where excellent attacking combinations and sharp shooting helped the team to a convincing 13–3 victory, with **Tiggy** shooting particularly well and making a significant impact under the post.
Progressing to the quarter-finals, the team faced a tough challenge against Bromsgrove, last year's winners. In what proved to be one of the most impressive performances of the day, the team produced an outstanding display of defensive pressure and accurate finishing to win 8–4, with **Georgina's** sharp pocket drives and speed on court creating attacking opportunities and keeping the opposition defence under constant pressure, securing a place in the semi-final.
The semi-final against St Peter's York was a thrilling encounter. Both teams played with great intensity, with the lead changing hands several times. **Amelie** and **Ajua** were excellent in circle defence, creating crucial turnovers and applying relentless pressure on their opponents. Showing remarkable determination and teamwork, the team saw out the victory in the closing moments to claim a hard-fought 14–12 victory and book their place in the final.
The final against Heath Mount was an incredibly close and exciting contest. **Mia** was outstanding throughout the day, working tirelessly for the team and contributing consistently with her effort, determination, and support across the court. Both sides played at a very high standard, with neither able to gain a decisive advantage on the scoreboard. **Jess** showed exceptional composure in the shooting circle, holding her nerve under pressure and calmly converting crucial goals. At the end of full time, the score was locked at 11–11, pushing the match into extra time. Although Heath Mount were able to pull ahead during the additional period, the team should be incredibly proud of their performance in such a high-quality and competitive final.
Although the final result was heartbreaking, finishing as national runners-up is a fantastic achievement. The team displayed exceptional commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament and should be extremely proud of their performances. Their journey to the final, including victories over several strong opponents and last year's champions, was a testament to their hard work and determination.
A big thank you to all the parents who came to support the girls, and to Mrs Morgie and Miss Graham for their dedication and guidance throughout the season.

CRICKET

Our girls cricket team were in superb form at the county Cricket indoor finals at the county ground in Somerset. In the first game we defeated Taunton School with several overs to spare. In the final we managed to reach an incredible 127 runs in just eight overs. Congratulations to all the girls and we are very much looking forward to the west of England finals in Cheltenham after the Easter break.







CROSS COUNTRY

On Tuesday we had nearly 400 cross country runners racing at the prep school. After some very damp races at the previous rounds it was nice to finish the league with a sunny afternoon of running. **Sage** completed her clean sweep of the races and has dominated her age group this year. The teams from years 3,4,5 and 6 have improved with every race and they can be very proud of their determination. We round off the cross country season next week with the Clive Thomas Relay event and fingers are crossed for another sunny day. Thank you to the parents who have supported the races and to the staff who have helped everything run smoothly. Special mention this week to Mrs Dale who was the hare for all the races which meant a lot of laps!

Well done to Sage for coming first this week for the fourth time in the series! Also well done to the Year 4 girls who did very well with five of them in the first 10.








TENNIS

Millfield Tennis has had some great results over the weekend with multiple players competing.

Congratulations to **Maxi H** on his U11 G3 win. **Finn S** picked up a tournament win at an U11 G5. **Izzy M** had a great result, winning an u14 G5 tournament.

We would also like to congratulate **Reggie O** on his result coming runner up in an U11 G5 tournament, and **Zara E** on her 3rd place result as part of the Avon National Finals team.








HOCKEY

On Monday evening, our boys first 11 played Clifton College in our annual memorial Hockey fixture in memory of Ryan Bresnahan, a hugely talented sportsman who tragically died of meningitis at a young age. Ryan's mum Michelle talked to the players about her charity https://ryanbresnahan.org/
Our boys played with spirit and sportsmanship fitting of the occasion. An emotional but wonderful fixture with Millfield retaining the trophy.







The U12 girls' hockey team took part in the South West Regional England Hockey Finals on Thursday, competing against some of the strongest schools in the region in a challenging and competitive tournament.

Drawn in a difficult pool, which included the eventual winners, the team faced tough opposition from the outset. They made a slow start to the morning's matches, losing and drawing their opening games as they worked to settle into the pace and intensity of the competition. However, their performances improved steadily as the morning progressed, with the team showing increasing confidence and cohesion in their play. Their efforts were rewarded with a fourth-place finish in the group, securing them a place in the Plate competition in the afternoon.

The girls approached the knockout phase with renewed determination and produced a strong performance in the Plate semi-final, securing a narrow but well-deserved 1–0 victory to book their place in the final. In the Plate final they faced Truro School in another closely contested match. With neither side able to find a winning goal in normal time, the match was decided by penalty shuffles. Showing great composure under pressure, the Millfield players held their nerve to win the shootout and claim the Plate title with goal keeper **Evie A** saving all of the opposition shuffles.

This result meant the team finished fifth overall in the South West region—an excellent achievement in a competitive field. Well done to all the girls who took part in the tournament, and to the wider Under-12 group who have trained so well throughout the year. It was a fantastic way to round off the season.



TRAMPOLINING

On Saturday 14th March **Emily W**, as pictured represented Millfield Prep School at the National Schools Trampoline Finals in Derby Arena. Emily qualified for the finals in January from the Southern regionals in 5th position. With this in mind she was aiming for a top 10 finish. Emily was one of the first in her group to compete, topping the table with 15 gymnasts left to compete. After 10 gymnasts had completed their routines, she was still in 2nd position with 5 remaining competitors. It was a nail biting wait for the last results, but Emily held her position claiming an incredible 2nd place finish. Emily also trampolines outside of school, training for 8 and a half hours per week. Her dedication to the sport has paid off with this amazing achievement. Well done Emily.







WATER POLO

Alex B participated today with his two older brothers in the under 15s ESSA Water Polo final in Northampton playing in two of the three games.





#903
20 MARCH 2026

MILLFIELD
PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

This week has been filled with sunshine across Pre-Prep, inside and outside. A huge well done to all of our EYFS children for their wonderful performance of Croak to their families, bringing the stage to life. We could not be more proud of them. Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate their hard work, it meant so much to the children.

With the brighter weather, everyone has been making the most of the sunshine and searching for more signs of spring around our grounds. Tadpoles have especially enjoyed their outdoor play, where they worked together to paint a giant, colourful bird as part of their seasonal learning. Frogs have been keeping a close eye on the tadpoles in their classroom, noticing how they grow and change each day.

Reception have been thinking creatively this week, designing plates of food "fit for a giant" and producing some wonderfully imaginative work. In Year 1, children have been learning how to use speech marks correctly, adding expression and clarity to their writing. Year 2 have been busy writing letters and exploring drama through freeze frames, bringing stories and ideas to life with great enthusiasm.

Ask your child what their favourite learning experience has been this week.

Yours,
Mike

PRE-PREP

HOUSE TOTALS

HOUSE	ANGLES	DANES	JUTES	SAXONS
OVERALL	478	431	456	414

Millfield Prep and Pre-Prep does not tolerate any harassment in any form towards our pupils/staff

SHOW AND TELL

Mrs Cocks had a turn at show and tell! She had a tank with some water and something floating in the middle; what could it be? The children asked some great questions to discover what the object was. Together we learnt that it was frogspawn and about the life cycle of a frog. We have created an observation station, where we can keep a close eye on the frogspawn and draw what we see. Today was very exciting as a couple of tadpoles have appeared. Watch this space!









FROGS

Following on from our current theme of fire fighters the Frogs voted whether they'd like to make fire engine crisp breads or strawberry fire pops; fire engine crisp breads won! This week we made our fire engine crisp breads which have been a big hit, the cream cheese mix was so tasty!






CROAK SPRING PRODUCTION

Well done to Reception, Frogs and the Tadpoles for their superb performance in our EYFS production, 'Croak'. It takes a lot of self-confidence and resilience to stand up on a stage and perform to an audience, especially at such a young age, and the children did just that with great gusto; their singing sounded wonderful! Well done your teachers are very proud of you all.











RECEPTION

FLOWER POSIES

The children demonstrated strong fine motor skills when creating flower posies for their mums and were eager to share their achievements.













