#889
7 NOVEMBER 2025

MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

It's been wonderful to see the school buzzing with energy again as we have returned from half term. I do hope that, wherever you were, you and your families managed to get some downtime. The return after a significant break always brings a renewed sense of purpose, and it's been a pleasure to catch up with pupils, staff, and families, whether in the playground, at events, or simply in passing around campus and hearing about what everyone is looking forward to in this second half of term.

This is the first opportunity I have had to publicly thank Elly Sturges, her team, and all those involved in making the House Singing before half term a truly outstanding event. Thanks also to all of you for following instructions regarding tickets which helped the logistics run really smoothly too. It was a fabulous way to roll into the two-week break.

Looking ahead, there's much to be excited about. The Bonfire Night and Fireworks is always a real highlight, and I'm grateful to the PFA and all the volunteers who will be giving their time and enthusiasm. It's these moments of coming together that make our community so special.

There is a great deal of information about the various events coming up in the next month – please read the information sections carefully. I am really looking forward to everything, and I know time will fly between now and our Carol Service on Friday 5 December. I very much hope to see many of you between now and then.

Yours,
Dan

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the week is this great painting by **Ethan M**





PARENT NOTICES

Fireworks Arrangements

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the fireworks display tomorrow.

Saturday 8 November
6.15pm-Gates open
7.00pm-Fireworks display
7.30pm-Lighting of the bonfire

Refreshments: Hot dogs and hot chocolate are included in the ticket price (vegetarian option available).

The Parents and Friends Association will be running a tuck shop for the event. Mulled wine, soft drinks, snacks and sweets will be on sale.

The display will be on the Coxbridge Field (to the right of the bottom roundabout on Martins Lane). Tickets for day pupils and their families should be collected from Reception and boarders will be given tickets for their families on the day via their Houseparents.

There will be no dogs on site.

Car parking stewards will direct you to the parking areas. Please park in the designated areas and do not park on the road.

Tickets can be purchased via this link

Remembrance Service

All pupils will take part in a Remembrance Service on Tuesday 11 November. Please can pupils wear their formal uniform.

Odd Socks Day and Anti-Bullying Week

We will be supporting Anti-Bullying Week (10-14 November) by having an Odd Socks Day on Monday 10 November. Prep and Pre-Prep pupils are asked to wear normal school uniform, with the addition of odd socks, or tights and socks etc. As in previous years, the children will be signposted to support in and outside of school, how to look after themselves and others and to be respectful of all individuals in our community. We will also look at what bullying is and the difference between unkindness and bullying. We will also emphasise the use of our anonymous reporting and worries tool, Tootoot. More information about the Anti-Bullying Alliance can be found here.

Children in Need Non-Uniform Day Friday 14 November

We will be joining in with the rest of the country to support Children in Need and raise money for good causes. Pre-Prep and Prep pupils can wear non-uniform to school, please bring a donation of £2 to go towards the charity. This year's theme encourages you to 'Challenge Yourself to 25'.

Parents and Friends Association Disco Friday 14 November

The PFA are kindly running and supporting a disco.

To book tickets, and confirm attendance, please use this link as soon as possible to indicate whether or not your child will be attending. The cost of the ticket is £6.50, and will include a drink and snack.

Timings are below:

1. Reception and Pre-School 1.30-2.10 (pupils who are attending on the day)
2. Year 1 and Year 2: 2.10-3.00pm
2. Year 3 and Year 4: 3.45-4.45pm
3. Year 5 and Year 6: 5.15-6.30pm
4. Year 7 and Year 8: 7.00-8.30pm

Please collect and drop off at Reception in a timely fashion. The event will be taking place in the Assembly Hall.

Any volunteers please park in the Pre-Prep Car Park.

Parents of Year 7 and 8s please collect your child after school as normal and drop off at 19.00 at Reception. Collection is at 20.30. Should you need to make alternative arrangements after school please contact your child's GT.

Exeat Weekend Friday 21 November – Sunday 23 November

The school will shut at 15.45pm on Friday 21 November for Exeat Weekend. There will be no clubs, activities, games, late stay etc. Traffic is likely to be high on campus so please try to arrive at your allocated time slots for year groups or it will block the campus. Siblings are able to be picked up together at earlier time slots. Please make sure your children are aware of times and venues to avoid any confusion.

Pre-Prep - 3.15pm top car park
Year 3 - 3.45pm Martins Lane
Year 4 - 3.45pm Martins Lane
Year 5 - 3.45pm Martins Lane
Year 6 - 4.00pm Martins Lane
Year 7 - 3.45pm Reception car park
Year 8 - 4.00pm Reception car park

The return for boarders following the exeat weekend is from 5pm onwards, boarding houses will not be open before then. If your child is due to return earlier, please ensure that they are supervised by a guardian.

Year 8 drinks reception Thursday 4 December

We are delighted to invite all of our Year 8 parents to a drinks reception in the pavilion from 8.00-9.30pm. Members of the Prep School SMT will be present, as will key members of the Senior School team. To confirm your attendance please click here

Carol Service - Millfield Prep parents only- Friday 5 December

We are delighted to invite parents, grandparents and carers to our Carol Service on Friday 6 December from 2.30pm at Wells Cathedral. Pupils will need to be in formal uniform and are expected to attend (unless an absence request via the parent portal has been granted). The term ends after the Carol Service, which should finish at approx. 3.30pm. Children will need to be collected from their group tutors at the end of the service. Any children not collected at the Cathedral will be brought back to school and should be collected from Reception or their boarding house by 4.00pm

Managed Device Information Session

Further to the information sent out prior to half term, and along with the reports, we are holding two information sessions regarding the implementation of managed devices. We believe these sessions will provide valuable insights and answer any questions you may have regarding the new arrangement. We will be recording the second session for those unable to attend.

Friday 14 November at 3.00pm in the Recital Hall for Year 5 parents.
Friday 21 November at 3.00pm in the Recital Hall for Year 8 parents.

Pupil collection from Reception

Please can parents come into Reception when they collect their children outside of normal finishing times, so we can ensure a safe handover. This is particularly important with the dark evenings and reduced visibility.

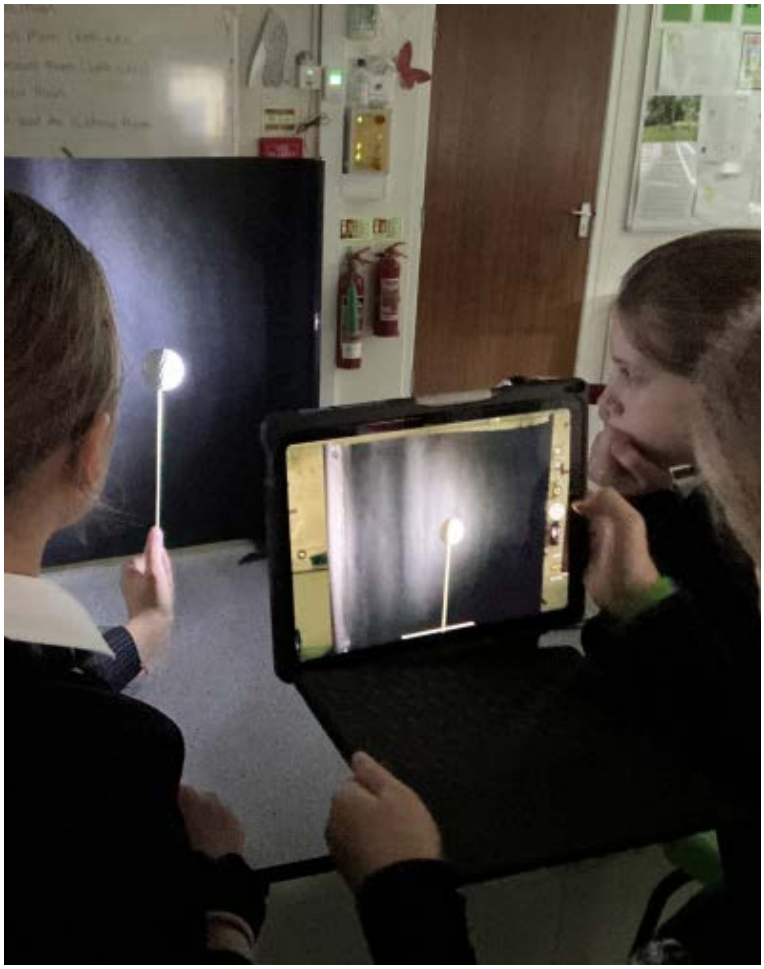


SCIENCE

The Science department are looking forward to welcoming the Explorer Dome back to Millfield Prep for a show based around the Year 7 Space topic on Thursday 20 November. Pupils have been organised into four groups. They will attend for one double lesson. Their other lessons will be unaffected. Uniform should be worn as normal.



In Science lessons this week, Year 8 has been examining the chemical energy stored in our food, and Year 6 has been modelling the phases of the Moon.





SHAPWICK HEATH NATURE RESERVE

A group of Year 7 girls visited the nature reserve this week. The task set by the volunteers, was to cut back the overgrown brambles. We then had the opportunity to visit the bird hide and sit quietly and relax, whilst doing some bird identification and enjoying the view of the reserve.











SWIM CHALLENGE

The Boarders Sunday programme on the 12 October involved a sponsored swim for the Glastonbury and Street Lions Club, money raised from the swim will go to local charities.

A great afternoon was had by all; there was plenty of fun and determination from all swimmers involved. There were mixed abilities swimming with the experienced swimmers helping to make it a great event.

It was wonderful to see the swimmers of all abilities participate for such a worthwhile local cause. Everybody put in plenty of effort into the challenge, and I am sure many were very proud of their individual achievements.

The overall total of lengths swam was equivalent to 28.2 miles or 45.4 kilometres, this is equal to swimming from Dover to Calais and a little way back!

What a fantastic effort from everyone.

The money raised was a whopping £325 plus some generous donations on the Go Fund Me Page.







BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES

It may have been a short week, but what a lovely one it's been in Hollies! The girls returned from their half term break full of stories, energy, and smiles — looking refreshed and ready to embrace the second half of term. They've wasted no time getting back into the swing of things, working hard in the classroom and already performing brilliantly out on the sports pitches.
A special mention goes to our talented Year 7s who took part in the Art Department's Togetherness Challenge — their creativity and collaboration shone through, and we're so proud of everyone who took part. **Sammy** and **Anna's** masterpieces are featured in this week's photos.











CHESTNUT

It was lovely welcoming all the girls back after the half term break and hearing about their wonderful adventures. We got to celebrate two birthdays in house this week. On Tuesday, the girls had great fun decorating cupcakes in celebration of **Eady's** birthday, before celebrating **Holly's** birthday with more delicious cupcakes on Wednesday. Wishing both girls a very happy birthday! With it being Remembrance Sunday this weekend, the girls have been getting crafty and have made some beautiful poppy wreaths and art to commemorate.











BEREWALL

It was great to have our boys back after their well-deserved half term break. The house was instantly back into full swing on Sunday evening, with the boys packing their bags and organising themselves for the week ahead. It was like they were never away! On Tuesday, the boys enjoyed their 'tech free' evening with a game of 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire'. **Milo** was the contestant, and sat at the front to face the questions of Mr S. He eventually had to use all his lifelines to progress to the million-pound question, to which he answered correctly to huge cheers and celebration. Well done, Milo! We are all very excited to be approaching Christmas. We are starting to think about decorations, the Christmas tree and all the fun activities that await us. For now, we look forward to Bonfire Night on Saturday and hope to see lots of you there. Have a great weekend.









CHAMPION

It was lovely to welcome the boys back after the holidays and hear all about what they have been up to. It is so nice to see them back with their friends, playing and catching up. It is amazing how quickly they have settled back into the swing of things. We would like to extend a warm welcome to **Ollie** who joined us on Sunday as new boarder. It is great to see our boys stepping up and being kind and helpful in showing him the ropes. The dark nights have meant being creative with the Jenga bricks and board games! We also celebrated **Alfie's** birthday this week with the most fantastic cake!









SPORTING NEWS

HOCKEY

The U8 girls travelled to Clifton for matches against the teams from Cheltenham. They are improving fast and have started their Millfield hockey journey well.



CRICKET

Congratulations to the 37 boys and girls on their selection into the Winter Somerset County Cricket Pathway. This is a fantastic achievement and we are very proud of you all!

Boys U10s
Cooper M
Stanley R
Miles W

Boys U11s
Noah F
Felix M
Rufus M

Boys U12s
Hunter B
Freddie F
Bernie S-H
Tanner H
Cooper L

Boys U13s
Jackson B
Oscar F
Micah G
Cameron G
Barney G
Kanish M

Boys U13 Wyvern
Raffie B
Harry G

Girls U11s
Ida S
Amber B
Evelyn D
Fern H
Lulu K
Amelie M
Isobel R

Girls U12s
Isobel A
Hettie H
Rosie K
Arabella L-J
Grace S

Girls U13s
Rosabella B
Jessica H
Layla K
Mia W
Tabitha W

Girls U13 Wyvern
Tiggy C

SAILING

On Wednesday, two of our Year 6 sailors, **Joshua W** and **Gethin H** went up to Chew Lake to compete in a friendly regatta against Clifton College. As the children rigged their boats, the wind grew stronger and stronger. By the time the race was due to start, the conditions had become too stormy to compete, and it became a matter of who could stay upright! The boys showed an extremely positive approach and learned a lot despite not actually managing to race. The sailors were a credit to the school.





CROSS COUNTRY

This week, we had the second race of the Mendip Junior Cross Country League and after weeks of sunny dry weather, we finally had some proper cross country weather with wind and rain! It didn't stop our runners from racing enthusiastically and some of them said they preferred the rain! We now have a break in the league until after Christmas which gives them all time to squeeze a little more training in and get even faster. Thank you to the staff and parents who braved the conditions!





KARTING

Well done to **Lucien** who secured a P2 during the half term break in Belgium.



EQUESTRIAN

Isla S on her pony Scribbles at a show during the holidays with fantastic riding and a lovely clear round.



Olly and **Toby R** riding great XC rounds over a tricky course during half term

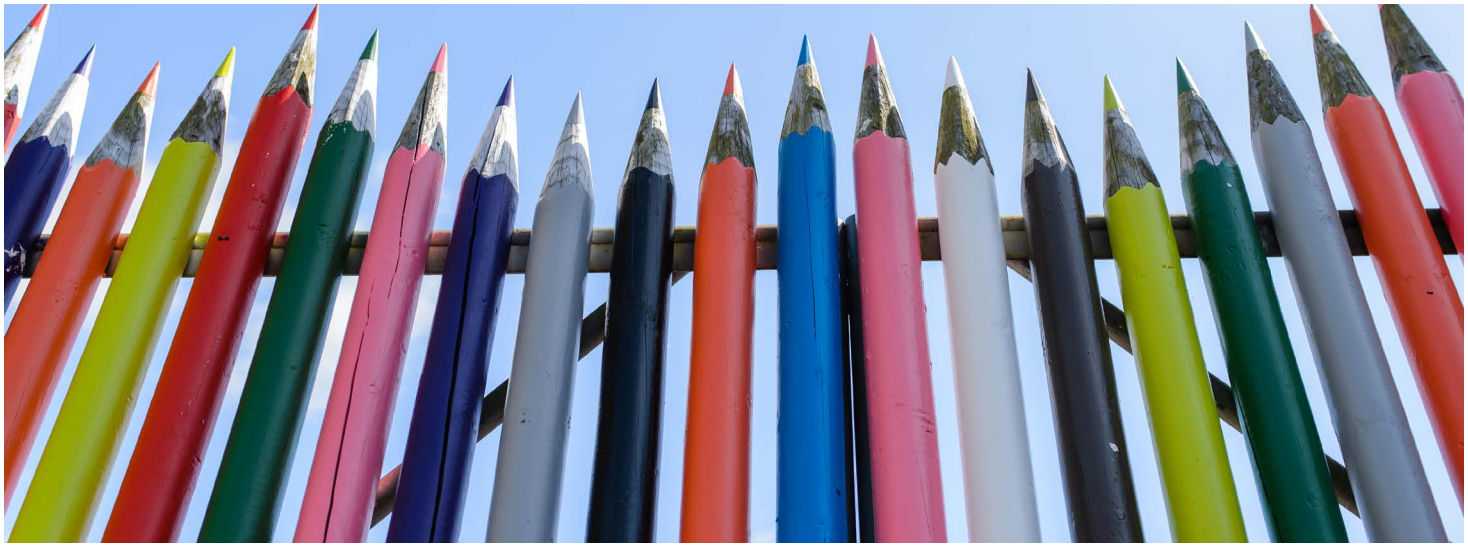




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MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all had a wonderful half term break and enjoyed some special family time. It's lovely to see the children return refreshed, full of enthusiasm and excited to begin the build-up to Christmas. Over the next four weeks there is so much to look forward to, keep a close eye on the notice board for upcoming events.

We started this week with an assembly all about happiness and kindness. Together, we explored how following our school rules and using kind words and actions can help make everyone feel happy and included, both in and out of the classroom. The children shared their wonderful ideas about what makes them happy, from playing with friends to helping others and we finished with a touch of magic! As the children called out their happy words, we joined them together to create our very own beautiful rainbow coloured paper chain.

It's been a great start to the half term, and we can't wait to invite you all to Pre Prep for the exciting learning and celebrations ahead!

Best wishes,
Mike

KEY DATES

Friday 14 November

Children in Need and PFA Disco

Friday 21 Novebmer

Exeat – School finishes at 3.15pm

PRE-PREP

HOUSE TOTALS

HOUSE	ANGLES	DANES	JUTES	SAXONS
OVERALL	253	192	264	217

FROGS

PUMPKIN BAKING

Inspired by our pumpkin activities over the half term break the Frogs have enjoyed hammering tacs into pumpkins. Whilst doing this, **Mawgan** wondered if the pumpkins were hollow. **Bertie** told him there were seeds inside, so we decided to take a look. Firstly, we looked and named the parts of a pumpkin. Then we cut the pumpkin open to see what was inside. We all put our hands inside to pick out the seeds and fibrous strands; not all of us liked this! We used our describing words to say how it felt; gooey, sticky, wet, hairy and yucky! We then made a picture of what the pumpkin looked like inside. **Hattie** told us she had baked pumpkin pie and biscuits at home. Some of us had never tried pumpkins biscuits so we decided to make some! They smelt and tasted delicious and were a big hit! Mr Thorburn heard we were making pumpkin biscuits, so he popped to try one; he thought they were delicious too!



RECEPTION

FOSSILS AND HEALTHY EATING

This week the EYFS children have been focusing on healthy eating, and we had a healthy breakfast where we talked about reducing our sugar intake. The children all tried lots of new food's from eggy bread and mushrooms to porridge with fruit. The children had lots of fun and we would like to thank the kitchens for making and serving us all the yummy food. Following our trip to Kilve beach before half term to look for fossils, this week the children have been looking at the cross section of an ammonite and drawing it. They have been taking their time to create their beautiful master pieces.

















YEAR 1

BONFIRES AND BATS

The Year 1 have loved their art challenges this week. I am sure you will agree that their bonfire pictures and spooky bats are stunning. They were fascinated about finding out why we celebrate Bonfire Night and asked some brilliant questions.





YEAR 2

COUNTING

The children have been learning to count in 2s, 5s and 10s. They created groups of counters to represent their counting and wrote out the matching numbers. They also coloured in a hundred square to show which numbers are said when counting, and wrote some facts alongside these such as 'the numbers are always even' or 'the numbers always end in either a 5 or a 0'. Well done Year 2!







