#892
28 NOVEMBER 2025

MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

What a joyful and energising week it has been at Millfield Prep. As we move closer towards December, Christmas has truly begun to make its presence felt across campus. From beautifully decorated trees to sparkling displays appearing in classrooms and boarding houses, the school is now full of festive cheer and anticipation for the celebrations ahead.

It has been wonderful to see so many of you at our Christmas productions over the past week. From the delightful performances in Pre-Prep to the hugely successful Junior Production, our pupils have approached each event with enthusiasm, confidence, and creativity. These moments are a real highlight of the term, and I am grateful to all staff and families who have supported the children along the way.

A huge congratulations to our U13 girls' hockey team, who returned as IAPS National Hockey Champions 2025 - an outstanding achievement and a proud moment for the entire school community. We also send our best wishes to the U11 girls hockey team as they compete in their National Finals today; we look forward to hearing how they get on.

As we enter our final week of term, the calendar is filled with seasonal activities, celebrations and events that bring our community together in such special ways. Please do take a moment to read through the parent notices carefully, as a lot is happening over the coming days.

I look forward to seeing many of you around campus as we bring this busy and memorable term to a close.

Yours,
Dan

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

The Picture of The Week is this year's winning entry for the Christmas card competition by **Ichika Y.**





PARENT NOTICES

Managed Devices

Following the successful Year 5 and Year 8 managed devices meetings, please can parents be aware that if they buy their child an iPad for Christmas, it won't be useable in school.

Wednesday 3 December

Christmas jumper day - Wednesday 3 December - Pupils are welcome to wear their Christmas jumpers. Pupils will also be treated to Christmas lunch.

Clubs - There will be no clubs on Wednesday 3 December, though private lessons and prep club in the library will still run as normal. Please ensure that you check SOCS.

Year 8 drinks reception, Thursday 4 December

We are delighted to invite all of our Year 8 parents to a drinks reception in the Shayler Pavilion from 8-9.30pm. Members of the Prep School SMT will be present, as will key members of the Millfield Senior School team. To confirm your attendance please complete the Year 8 drinks reception Thursday 4 December form here.

Thursday 4 December

There will be no prep, clubs or private lessons in the afternoon of Thursday 4 December though prep club in the library will still run as normal. Pupils must ensure that they take all their property home with them.

Pick up times are below, pupils can be picked up with the youngest sibling:
Years 3 and 4 - Martins Lane at 3.40pm
Year 5 – Martins Lane at 3.50pm
Year 6 – Martins Lane at 4.00pm
Years 7 and 8 – Reception car park at 3.45pm

Friday 5 December

On Friday, pupils will be permitted a later start if you wish, and there will be no clubs or private lessons. All pupils must be present in their group tutor sessions by 9.00am.

PFA Parents' Coffee Morning Invitation

The PFA warmly invites you to join us for a festive Coffee Morning on Friday 5 December from drop off to 1.00pm in the pavilion.

As we come to the end of a busy and joyful term, this will be a wonderful chance to relax, catch up with fellow parents, and enjoy a cup of coffee (or two!) and nibbles before we all head to Wells Cathedral for the Carol service. It's the perfect way to start the celebrations and share some cheer before the well-deserved holiday break for our children and the school staff.

Please save the date and RSVP using the this form. We can't wait to see many of you there!

Carol Service

We are delighted to invite parents, grandparents and carers to our Carol Service on Friday 5 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 4pm.

We will also be raising money for the Children's Hospice South West this year. Click this link to find out more and donate.

Pre-term Hockey and Netball course

We are holding a Pre-Term Boys Hockey and Girls Netball course for all year groups which will be held on Sunday 4 January 2026 from 1.00pm to 3.30pm. All players are welcome irrespective of experience. Please wear Millfield School clothing if possible.

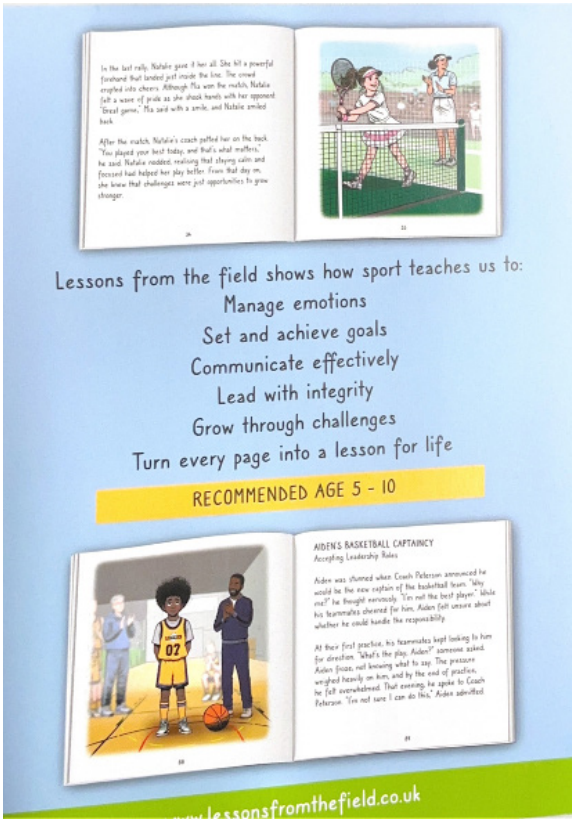
Please make sure pupils have lunch before attending. Please assemble (changed) by 12.45pm at the Pavilion for boys' hockey and the sports hall for girls' netball. Please collect day pupils from these locations at 3.30pm. Boarders will return to houses.

If you would like your child to attend the Pre-Term course, please complete the 'Pre-term Hockey and Netball course' form in the Parent Portal (under Forms to Complete-Optional).

LESSONS FROM THE FIELD

Looking for a stocking filler this Christmas? Have a look at this book written by Charlie Hartley. Charlie Hartley came through the Prep School as a boarder in Edgarley Manor and left Millfield after sixth form to become a professional cricketer for Kent. His book 'Lessons from the Field' is a series of short stories based on challenges that our pupils face in sport and how they can reflect on them learn. www.lessonsfromthefield.co.uk





SANTA RUN

The annual Santa Run is taking place on Monday 1 December!

Our level two and three Sports Leaders from the Senior School are heading to the Prep School for an afternoon of festive fun, leading the Santa Run for all pupils from Pre-Prep to Year 8!

The pupils can bring into school a Santa hat (if they have one!) and will be running in normal core PE kit. This event will take place in our school day, so collection/clubs as per normal. They will run in their House teams, and the winning House will be the one with the smallest gap between their first and last runner.

All money raised supports Children's Hospice Southwest, an amazing charity providing essential care for children with life-limiting conditions and their families. Please donate whatever you can; every bit helps! Good luck, Angles, Danes, Jutes and Saxons!

You can donate here.

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL



Supporting the Salvation Army this Christmas.

As a school community we would like to continue to support The Salvation Army this Christmas. We are asking for you to help us spread the joy of Christmas to families who may otherwise go without, if you are able.

We would like to support in two ways:
1 - Providing Christmas gifts for children (please see details below).
2 - Providing food for the food bank, non-perishable food and Christmas treats.

If you are able to help in any way, please bring donations to Mrs James' classroom (MA5) or the school reception. You are also welcome to post directly to MPS, c/o Mrs James.

Please could all donations arrive to us by **Wednesday 3 December**, to allow us to deliver them to the Salvation Army.

Thank you in advance for your help and kindness.

Suggested Gift List for Children and Young People

We believe every child deserves a new gift at Christmas so we are unable to take used or second hand items for the Christmas Present Appeal.

- 0-3 years: dolls, teddy bears, cot mobiles, baby clothes, bath toys, CDs of suitable music and nursery rhymes, puzzles.
- 3-5: dolls and action figures, cars, lorries, DVDs and CDs (music and nursery rhymes), colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles.
- 5-9: educational games & toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), CDs & family friendly DVDs, books, puzzles, wordsearch, crosswords.
- 9-12: games and toys, stationery, DVDs, books, t-shirts, hair accessories, gloves, scarves, hats.
- 13-16: books, make-up and toiletries (please try to ensure non-allergic ingredients if possible), gloves, scarves, hats, t-shirts, hair accessories and gift vouchers.

By giving a gift to our Christmas Present Appeal you can make a real difference in someone's life at Christmas. Many thanks.

EAL PUPIL OF THE WEEK

Louis R in Year 7 has made impressive progress since his arrival in September, demonstrating an ease and growing confidence with the language while fully embracing all areas of school life. Well done Louis!



SCIENCE CHRISTMAS TREE

This year's Prep Science Chemistree is based on Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Reducing waste by reusing chemicals and food colours in reusable boiling tubes, and recycled cardboard for the tree! Merry Christmas from the MPS Science Department!



SHAPWICK NATURE RESERVE[4]

The Year 7 boys excelled themselves at Shapwick Nature Reserve on Wednesday. They tackled the important task of cutting back brambles to clear the field boundaries with enthusiasm and energy, making a noticeable difference in a short amount of time. During the afternoon, the boys spoke with the countryside ranger, learning about the reserve and its wildlife. They even spotted a kestrel and were shown how an owl pellet can be pulled apart, to show what owls eat. The reserve was featured on BBC One's Countryfile programme about 'The Somerset Levels' last weekend, highlighting the work that is done to protect wildlife in this beautiful part of England.









EXPLORE DOME

Last Thursday, Year 7 visited the Explorer Dome, with presenters Matina and Archie taking them on a trip through time and space to find the North Star, discover that our Sun is actually rather insignificant (compared to Betelgeuse), and decide that they really didn't want to move to Venus. View last week's newsletter to see the photos.

GEOGRAPHY

As part of the topic on 'Coasts,' Year 8 geographers were set the challenge of creating a model to show the different stages of headland erosion. Their model had to include the following features: cracks, cave, arch, stack and stump. The pupils were very creative, and models were constructed from a variety of materials including cake, fruit, cheese, Lego, cardboard, play dough, Jenga bricks and rocks in the garden.

Alongside the work on coasts, Year 8 have also been keeping up to date with global geographical events taking place around the world in the past few weeks, including:

The Earthshot Prize: launched by Prince William in 2020 to support innovative solutions that address five ambitious environmental goals including: Clean our Air, Revive our Oceans, Build a Waste Free World, Fix our Climate and Protect and Restore Nature. https://earthshotprize.org/

The COP 30 climate conference: Brazil was the host country for this climate conference last week. The conference takes place each year with the aim of bringing people together to try and tackle the climate issues the planet is facing. The link highlights the decisions that were made this year: https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/videos/ckg9zlvxn35o

Georgie P



Freddie W



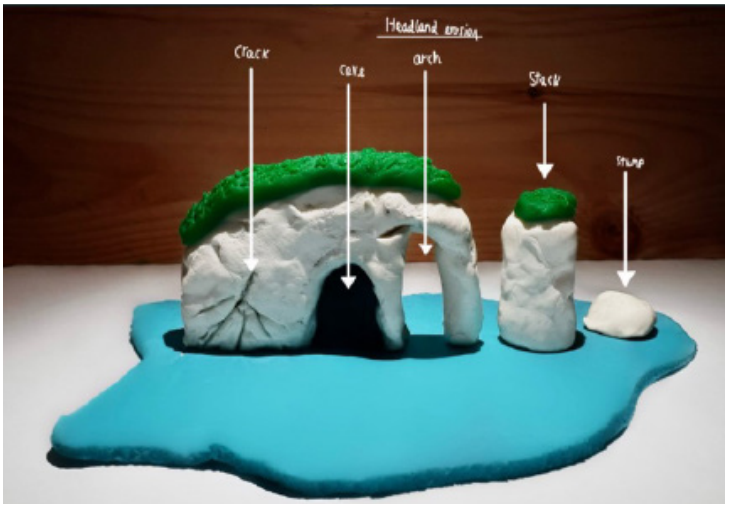
Ivy L



Archie P and **Ralph H**



Dylan M



Carlota, Elena and **Faye**



FOOD TECHNOLGY

It's been a festive whirlwind in Food Technology this week as pupils whipped up TikTok-famous puff pastry Christmas trees, made and decorated classic gingerbread people, and tackled the challenge of a beautifully rolled Swiss roll. Enjoy some of the best snaps from our Christmas kitchen!











FRENCH

Year 7 have been enjoying their "French for Life Club"! They have been analysing texts about Francophone athletes and learning about Francophone festivals from all around the world as well as experiencing some very old school French cartoons such as "Les Barbapapas"!



BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES

It's beginning to feel wonderfully Christmassy in Hollies as we head into the penultimate week of term! The girls have thrown themselves into Christmas decorating, filling the house with sparkle and festive colour. We also had double the excitement with **Elena** and **Flossie's** birthdays, celebrating both girls in true Hollies style with lots of smiles and sisterhood. A daily highlight has been the ongoing hunt for our two mischievous ChristMICE! With points up for grabs for the family groups, the competition is fierce and the detective work impressive.

Meanwhile, rehearsals for High School Musical and the Carol Service are in full swing, bringing music and energy to every corner of the house. It has also been especially heart-warming to see the girls putting such care and thought into their Secret Santa gifts, quietly crafting and choosing things for someone else in the house. Their kindness, creativity and excitement are what make this time of year so special in Hollies.









CHESTNUT

The girls enjoyed a well-deserved break over the Exeat weekend before returning on Sunday. Christmas is very much in full swing; the Christmas tree has arrived, and the girls have done a wonderful job decorating it, with all their beautiful baubles they've been making in house and special ones they returned with from Exeat, as well as adding even more festive magic around the house. Wednesday evening, we went along to support and cheer on our younger Chestnut sisters, in the Junior Christmas Production of Snow White, it was a joy to watch them perform. Well done everyone involved!







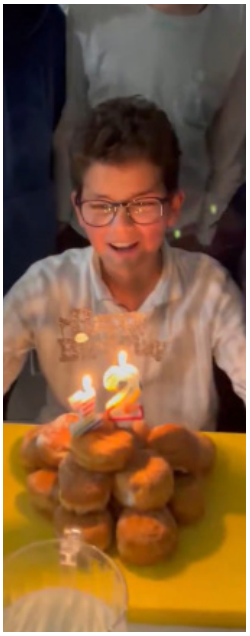






BEREWALL

The past week has been a mix of full speed with the much-needed Exeat in the middle. We all enjoyed the annual Berewall 'Guess the Baby' competition, for Children in Need. As always, it was great fun, with some very cute baby pictures. A flurry of birthdays have been celebrated. **Jose, Alfonso**, and **Luis** were serenaded by the Berewall choir! Not too sure if Mrs Sturges will be asking them along to Wells Cathedral next week, but you never know! After the Exeat, we turned our attention to the house Christmas decorations. Lights, tree, and décor have made the house into a Christmassy wonderland. The boys are starting to get a keen interest in playing Chess, we have seen some close matches and good competition…keep it up boys! We soon start to think about packing and organising for the end of term, but first we are all very excited for this weekend, and our house Christmas trip with the ever-amazing boarders' Christmas dinner on Sunday evening.





CHAMPION

We have made it to the penultimate week of term! The boys returned from the final exeat ready for all the festivities that the next couple of weeks will bring. We have seen some very interesting wrapping skills as they wrap their 'Secret Santa' gifts! Christmas crafting is in full swing with Miss Suffield and getting the house decorated and ready for Christmas! Our junior boarders have been sporting their festive finery in preparation for the much anticipated Junior production this week. We celebrated **Shawn's** birthday with a selection of huge biscoff and chocolate doughnuts. Happy birthday Shawn! We are now looking forward to an exciting weekend ahead with our house trip and various other treats, before we turn our thoughts to getting all packed up for Christmas!








SPORTING NEWS

TENNIS

Congratulations to **Almendra** who became runner up in the G4 U16 Girls Singles at the South & South West Tour at Portsmouth Tennis Centre. Almendra delivered a strong tournament, showing a clear step forward in maturity and match identity. Across all rounds she displayed improved composure, cleaner rally structure, and greater competitive resilience. Even in the final - where physical margins ultimately shaped the outcome - her decision-making, discipline, and fighting spirit remained consistent throughout.



We would like to congratulate **Reggie O** who won an U10 Grade 4 tournament and **Deina G** on winning an U12 Grade 4! Great effort and keep up the great work!



NETBALL

The girls played in their first ever 7-side cup game on Thursday. We came across a very tough Parkstone Grammar School. As a team, we had to quickly adjust to a fast-paced netball match. With several changes in the first quarter, the U12s started to settle and had some lovely link up play down the court. Lots to learn, but a great experience. Sadly the girls were knocked out in the 3rd round of the cup.



Our U13 netballers travelled to Blundells for the 3rd round of the national cup. After a fast-paced start taking the lead 10-2 in the first quarter the girls started strong. After a busy term the girls were all rotated so that all players contributed to a 27-19 win to progress. We await our opposition for the next round. A special mention to Layla who captained the team after representing Millfield netball since Year 3 through to her last game as a Year 8. We will all miss you and wish you all the best in South Africa. Thank you to Mrs Morgan-Hughes for accompanying us.



HOCKEY

The U13A Hockey Girls have had a fantastic week. They have an abundance of natural flair and talent with unwavering support for each other. They have displayed outstanding resilience to perform as a team. On Wednesday, the girls competed in the West of England Championships after winning the Somerset Counties, comfortably winning their group without conceding a single goal due to the strength and composure of our defenders **Jess H, Amelie H** and **Martha S**. They went into a tough semi-final, winning on shuffles after some superb goalkeeping from **Sofia L** and courage from **Rosabella, Layla K** and **Lowri S** to step forward and take the shuffles.

The final displayed the girls never ending athleticism, with **Sophia E** working tenaciously. The girls continued to produce stunning patterns of play, resulting in a controlled and very well deserved 2-0 win with the final goal slotted home by **Tabby W**, to be crowned West Champions and qualification for the England In2 Hockey National Finals in May 2026.

The girls had an early 6am start for Wellington College in Berkshire. They remained focused and together as a unit all day. Every match was tough and the standard from all the schools was excellent. The girls managed to win their three group games to top their pool. Onto the quarter-final against local competitors All Hallows School, winning 3-0, before heading to the semi-final against a strong Lambrook School, with the game ending 1-1, before a sparkling goal from **Lowri S** to secure a place in the final. This was it, the moment the girls had been waiting for, the final v Dragon School.

The girls approached the game with confidence and discipline within their own roles. They did not stop working for each other, believing in the process and were 2-0 up with four minutes to go. A couple of nervous moments and lapses of concentration the game was suddenly 2-2...the girls wanted it even more now and it was golden goal time! Within only a couple of minutes the tenacity of the girls to keep sending waves of attack, finally saw a ball ricochet through to **Layla K**, who had been on top form all day, clinically slotting the ball in, to end the game and be crowned IAPS U13 National Hockey Champions 2025.

We are super proud of all the girls and thank the parents for all their support throughout. Also, a huge thanks to the Lodestone catering department and the transport office. Success is only possible from all the hard work from everyone behind the scenes as well.





Congratulations to the boys U13 hockey team on reaching the National Indoor semi-final.



RUGBY

The Year 3s completed their season with a match against All Hallows School on Monday. Over the season, they have played in a host of matches and festivals. They've made so much progress with their understanding of the game, made some great tags and scored some super tries! Well done, boys!



CROSS COUNTRY

A busy week for the runners! We raced at Leweston and also in the Mendip Championships. There were four races at Leweston and we won all four as well as doing very well in the team competitions. Congratulations to **Jonah B, Gracie S, Rhydian F** and **Bea H** for four great runs. The Mendip Championships is a race where our runners need to finish in the first part of the race so that are selected for the Somerset Championships next term. We await the official results but it looks like all of them have made it through to round two. This was tough for the Year 8 runners as they were racing against Year 9 athletes.









GOLF DAY

Save the Date - The PFA cordially invite you to the Adult and Child Golf Day at Wells Golf Course on Sunday 4 June.

Join us for a fantastic day on the course, including:
- Friendly Adult–Child Competition
- Raffle
- Auction
- Prizes

More details will follow in due course.
Please show your interest by completing the form linked below. PFA Adult & Child Golf Day Sunday 7 June 2026 – Fill out form



EQUESTRIAN

Results from the competition at Kings Sedgemoor last weekend:
60cm: **Alba M** 1st, **Celeste B** 2nd, **Toby R** 4th, **Oliver R** 9th
70cm: Team 5th
90cm: **Elizabeth** 4th and double clear



PADEL TENNIS CLUB

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to inform you that we are running a Padel Tennis Club on Tuesdays 4-5pm next term at the Evercreech Padel Centre. Mr Park from the tennis department will be taking the group. The club is open to Year 6-8, but pupils in Year 7 will need to obtain Head of Year permission to attend.

Departure will be from reception as close to 3.45pm as possible and return to MPS at 5.15pm. Parents can collect directly from the Padel Centre but, the bus cannot wait if you are delayed.

Dates are Tuesday 6 January - 24 March inclusive. The school will provide bats/balls and coaching will be provided by the centre and supported by Mr Park.

Cost per term is £110 added to the school bill.

If your child would like to participate please complete the Padel Tennis online form on the parent portal (MSP).

Also if any parents would like to play Padel or set up a Millfield Parents group please contact Phil at Padel People on 07768502379.

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MILLFIELD
PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

It was wonderful to see so many families join us this week for our Christmas Productions. Early Years delighted everyone with their charming Wiggly Nativity, while Key Stage 1 shone brightly in their Christmas Quarrel performance. Both productions were absolutely fantastic, with superb singing, amazing acting, dazzling dancing and terrific teamwork filling the hall with festive cheer. A huge well done to all the children and staff for their hard work.

Year 1 and Year 2 were invited to watch the Junior Production in the Prep Assembly Hall, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Well done to all the juniors. Meanwhile, our EYFS children had an amazing morning in Forest School, exploring the outdoors and keeping cosy with sausages around the campfire.

As we continue the countdown to Christmas and the end of term, we are very much looking forward to continuing the Christmas festivities next week. Highlights include our Christingle service, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Lunch, class parties, and welcoming families to Forest School for Singing in the Woods. It promises to be a magical week to round off a brilliant term.

Best wishes,
Mike

KEY DATES

Wednesday 3 December
Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Lunch

Thursday 4 December
Singing in the woods 2pm

Friday 5 December
Christmas parties

End of term
School finishes at 3.15pm
No clubs, creche or late club

PRE-PREP

HOUSE TOTALS

HOUSE	ANGLES	DANES	JUTES	SAXONS
OVERALL	557	486	566	509

NATIVITY

A BIG congratulations to all of the Reception children, Frogs and Tadpoles for their fantastic performances in this year's Nativity; it takes a lot to stand up in front of an audience and perform! We are so proud of you all, it makes our Christmas!





















KS1

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

KS1 have been working hard to learn their lines and all our songs. They have done a wonderful job over the past few weeks, and we couldn't be prouder of their effort and enthusiasm.

















SAUSAGES IN THE WOODS

We had a glorious time at Forest School on Wednesday. The weather was bright and crisp as we experienced our first fire of the year. We spent the morning using the bow saw to cut discs which we used to create Christmas decorations, peeling hazel sticks to cook with, planting spring bulbs and just enjoying being outdoors, building dens and dragging sticks! We then gathered around the fire to help warm up our sausage lunch, which was very much enjoyed, before indulging in a pudding of baked bananas with chocolate buttons - delicious! What a fabulous day in the woods!





















