#907
15 MAY 2026

MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,



After a busy week of travelling around last week, it has been nice to remain rooted in Somerset for seven days! That phrase is part of one that I often use in Open Morning speeches and I enjoyed reminding our visitors on Saturday that we are indeed a global school firmly rooted in Somerset. Well done to the Year 8 pupils who toured our guests around – you impressed with your warmth, openness and passion for MPS once again.

Many of you were lucky enough to enjoy a fabulous Last Night of the Proms themed Summer Concert on Tuesday evening. I said at the time that not only was it yet another very high quality level of performance but it also felt truly community embracing – there was a real warmth and camaraderie to it. Congratulations to Elly Sturges and her team, not to mention all the musicians who took part, for making it an event to remember.

Finally I was very pleased to share our recent inspection report with you earlier this week. In my accompanying letter, I've realized I failed to mention that under their new inspection framework, the ISI no longer gives any sort of grading (such as excellent, good, satisfactory etc.) whereas in previous inspections they used to. This does mean that all reports are quite dry to read. Nonetheless, I hope that it does not detract from the point I made about how challenging it is for schools to meet all the standards these days! As I mentioned, I look forward to engaging with you as a parent body more widely over the coming terms with surveys and focus groups in specific areas that we are looking to develop next.

Have a great weekend when it arrives. It looks like the April showers are turning up in May this year – I hope you stay dry wherever you are!

Yours,
Dan

CONTENTS

Page 2
Parent Notices

Page 4-7
Subject Focus

Page 8-10
Boarding Life

Page 11-15
Sporting News

Page 16-18
Pre-Prep Newsletter

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is this sensitive watercolour landscape painting by Year 7 **Samuel C.**



EAL PUPIL OF THE WEEK

Since joining Year 7 at the start of the summer term, **Taiei** has hit the ground running (quite literally in athletics). He is growing in confidence when expressing himself as his language skills continue to develop. He shows a positive attitude and good application in EAL lessons. We look forward to seeing his continued progress, keep pushing forward **Taiei**!



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

PARENT NOTICES

Inter House Athletics

Inter House Athletics will be taking place at the Senior School track on Friday 22 May. Pupils from Years 6, 7, and 8 have already selected their house teams during their house meetings this week. On the day, pupils should arrive at school dressed in their sports kit. After registration, they will be transported by bus to the track for a morning full of athletics. Day pupils can be dropped at senior school amd meet at the track. Parents are warmly invited to spectate and support their children during the event. At the end of the athletics, parents may collect their children directly from the track.

If any day pupils return to school after athletics, please collect Year 7 and 8 pupils from the reception car park, and Year 6 pupils from Martins Lane as usual. Boarders may be collected from the track or back at MPS boarding houses. For those departing from the track, please ensure pupils sign out with their Group Tutors.

Pre-Prep and Years 3-5 should be collected from the Prep School at 12.00 noon.

Prize Giving Service

Millfield Prep School has the pleasure of inviting all parents and guests to our Prize Giving Service which will take place on Friday 26 June at 11.00am. Light refreshments will be available for parents and guests from 10.15am. Prize Giving will finish at approximately 12.30pm, after which parents of children in Year 3-7 are welcome to bring a picnic to enjoy in the grounds with their family.

We are delighted to invite Year 8 parents and their children to a special leavers' lunch in the Shayler Pavilion after the Prize Giving Service.

More detailed information will be sent closer to the day itself but we very much hope you will join us for this special occasion.

Congratulations **Noah F** for designing the winning birthday card for the Eco Day competition which we will be sending to Sir David Attenborough when it arrives from the printers this week.



Click here to fill out the PFA Outdoor Cinema Form



MUSIC

The Last Night at the Proms

Over 60 pupils came together to perform in the Summer Concert, this year themed 'The Last Night at the Proms!'. The evening was a truly fantastic occasion and a wonderful celebration of music, community, and tradition. The hall was transformed with bunting, an array of flags and British themed table decorations, creating a vibrant Proms atmosphere. Audience members were treated to a spectacular high tea provided by our wonderful catering team, and it was lovely to see the pupils dressed in their formal colourful finery for this special evening of celebration.
The concert featured an impressive range of ensembles (including the first official outing of our fantastic Year 4 orchestra) and performances from our talented pupils. There was plenty of opportunity for everyone to join in, including a spirited kazoo masterclass during *Variations Upon the Sailors Hornpipe*, enthusiastic flag waving for *Land of Hope and Glory*, and joyful singing along to *Auld Lang Syne* to bring the evening to a close.
It was wonderful to have the audience so fully involved, helping to create a warm, uplifting and at times quite emotional atmosphere. The children are all to be congratulated on their outstanding performances. Their confidence, musicianship, and enthusiasm shone throughout the evening and reflected the incredible hard work and dedication they have shown in rehearsals. Their hard work was rewarded at the very end of the night with a quintessentially British treat - an ice cream served in the slightly chilly British summer weather!

A huge thank you also goes to the staff, catering team, technical team, print room, community team and everyone involved in organising such a memorable evening. It was a wonderful celebration of music and community that will live long in the memory of all who attended.

















TRIPS

LANGUAGE AND HUMANITIES

Year 6 Language and Humanities Cross-Curricular Trip

The Year 6 Cross-Curricular trip to The Newt took place on Thursday 7 May and provided pupils with unique access to the Villa Ventorium. The opportunity to tour the Roman Villa with a guide, take part in a range of Roman-themed games and activities was outstanding. Our pupils were excellent ambassadors for the school and were particularly attentive when completing their booklet in the museum and answering questions set for them. Well done Year 6 on a successful trip.



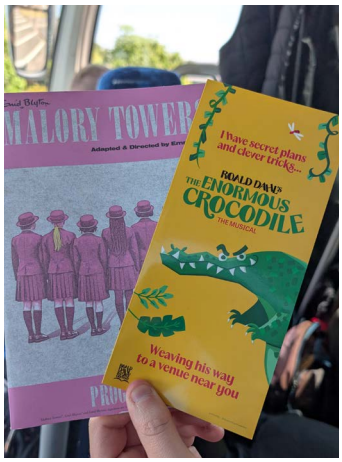







DRAMA

This week Years 3,4 and 5 had fun at the theatre. On Thursday, Year 5 went to Bath Theatre Royal to watch Malory Towers and on Friday Years 3 and 4 took a trip to Poole for the Enormous Crocodile. A brilliant time was had by all.



GEOGRAPHY

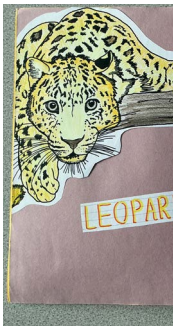
Sir David Attenborough – 100

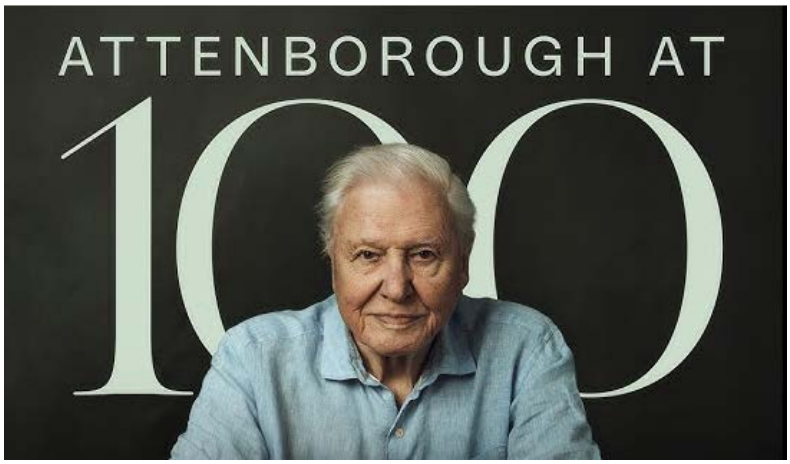
This week, we celebrated the remarkable milestone of Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday during our Year Group and Whole School Assemblies. Renowned for inspiring generations with his passion for the natural world, Sir David has had more than 40 animal and plant species — as well as a constellation — named in his honour. Through his exploration of remote parts of the world and his powerful storytelling, he has encouraged millions to appreciate and protect our planet's wildlife and environments. His work has also inspired many of our pupils, particularly those who attend Safari Club. Through the club, pupils explore the fascinating world of African wildlife, learning about a range of animals and their natural habitats. They enjoy watching live watering-hole webcams and nature documentaries, which bring animal behaviour to life and encourage thoughtful discussion and plenty of questions. Pupils also create scrapbooks containing photographs, facts, and their own discoveries, while having opportunities to share personal safari experiences with the group. Safari Club continues to nurture curiosity, enthusiasm, and a deeper appreciation for the natural world.

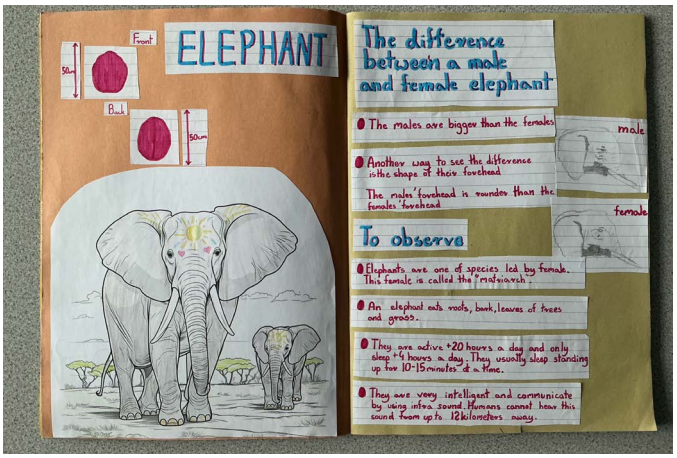












Year 8 Geographers have been discovering how to interpret Ordnance Survey maps. They have developed skills in identifying map symbols, giving 4 and 6 figure grid references, planning routes, interpreting contour lines and measuring distances. Year 8 have also recognised the importance of using tangible paper maps and not always relying on technology including GPS and satellite navigation, to get them from one place to another.







FOOD TECH

It's been a fantastic week in Food Technology! Year 3 and 4 created homemade chicken nuggets, with Year 4 adding a fresh yogurt and lemon dip. Meanwhile, Year 8 impressed with Korean chicken burgers, focusing on flavour, spice, and presentation.
We are incredibly proud of the creativity and enthusiasm shown across all year groups — enjoy some of our favourite photos from the week!










Year 5 made Chicken Caesar Salad, baking their own croutons and learning how to balance flavours when making Caesar dressing.




SCIENCE

In science this week, Year 8 looked at dissections.





BOARDERS CHARITY CHALLENGE

Sunday 10 May saw the boarders come together for a truly memorable and inspiring Boarders' Charity Challenge Day, marked by energy, determination, and a wonderful sense of community.

Across the course of the day, pupils took part in a range of physical and fun activities, collectively achieving some remarkable feats. The Stair Climb Challenge was a real highlight, with boarders working together to ascend the equivalent height of Mount Everest not once, but twice—a fantastic demonstration of resilience and teamwork.

The Rowing Challenge was equally impressive, with pupils covering more than three times the distance from Dover to Calais. Their commitment and perseverance throughout the day was evident, as they pushed themselves to contribute to a shared goal.

The Go-Kart Challenge proved hugely popular, with boarders enthusiastically taking part and collectively clocking up over 70 miles. Laughter and encouragement were in abundance as pupils cheered one another on.

The Water Fill Obstacle Challenge added yet another dimension to the day, combining teamwork, coordination, and a good sense of humour. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all, with plenty of smiles despite the inevitable splashes along the way.

The event concluded in fitting style with a Colour Run, which brought a real sense of celebration and togetherness to the day. Pupils, already buzzing from the earlier challenges, embraced the opportunity to let their hair down, covering one another in colour as they ran, laughed, and enjoyed the moment. It was a vibrant and joyful finale, perfectly capturing the spirit of the day, one of teamwork, determination, and fun, leaving a lasting impression on everyone involved.

Overall, it was a fantastic occasion, showcasing not only the pupils' physical efforts but also their teamwork, spirit, and willingness to get involved for a good cause. A huge well done to all who took part and helped make the day such a success. We have raised over £500 and if anyone would still like to donate, please do so on the following link.













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BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES

The Hollies' girls enjoyed a brilliant weekend together, including s'mores around the firepit and lots of evening cricket. A particular highlight was taking part in the Boarders' Charity Challenge, where the Hollies girls truly gave their all from start to finish. The duty staff were full of praise for their exceptional teamwork, constant encouragement of one another and the excellent positive energy they brought throughout the entire day. We were incredibly proud of the way they represented Hollies and supported each other so wholeheartedly. A huge well done also goes to **Sammy**, who competed this week with the senior school ski squad at the event at the Hemel Hempstead Snow Centre and achieved an impressive podium finish.









CHESTNUT

It has been another busy and uplifting time in the House, filled with outdoor adventures, celebration, and kindness. We were delighted to celebrate our Spring Term Star Boarders, **Ichika, Martha, Velanie and Hope**, who were rewarded with a well deserved treat of their choice, McDonalds. Their positive contribution to House life has been fantastic, and we are incredibly proud of all they achieve. Kindness has also been a key theme, with a group of girls independently creating a kindness hearts board, filled with thoughtful and encouraging messages for others. It has brought a lovely sense of warmth and positivity to the House. Thank you **Amelia, Daphne and Sofia**. For something, a little more adventurous, the girls also had great fun go karting, enjoying the excitement and friendly competition. Finally, we joined in celebrating Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday, recognising his incredible contribution to the natural world and inspiring conversations about the environment and conservation. We also marked Somerset Day, making the most of our beautiful surroundings with time outdoors and fresh air, including House walks with Jupiter, who has quickly become part of the Chestnut family.

We are delighted to recognise **Alessandra and Florence** as our Brilliant Boarders for the Summer Term. Joining us at the start of term, both girls have made a wonderfully positive impression from the very beginning. Their enthusiasm and uplifting energy have brought a real sense of joy to the house, and they have embraced boarding life with confidence and ease. **Alessandra and Florence** have settled quickly, building strong connections and becoming valued members of the Chestnut family. It has been a pleasure to see their positivity shine through in everyday house life—well done to you both!











BEREWALL

The weekend saw the Berewall boys gracing the cricket fields, athletic tracks, and swimming pools of the county with great success! So, what better way to relax than running around the woods? Off we trekked, with a spring in our step, to set up base camp and a campfire before a couple of rounds of manhunt. Then came the all-important refuelling, with numerous s'mores and even more marshmallows! Finally, it was off to bed to rest ahead of further exertions in athletics, swimming, and the Boarders' Charity Challenge on Sunday.






CHAMPION

The Boarders' Charity Challenge was a highlight this week, with the Champion boys taking part in a variety of challenges to raise money for a very worthy cause. The washing machines certainly took a hit after the colour run! The Sunday morning breakfast van was as popular as ever, and the early morning sunshine meant that some boys were able to enjoy breakfast outside.
Mr Beevor took the boys to the sports hall to enjoy some football. The semi-finals and final were so closely contested that they all went to penalties! **Folarin and Folami** treated the house to pizzas and ice cream this week, which, needless to say, went down very well.
Mr McNulty also took last term's 'Star Men' out for a treat meal this week. These boys have shown great independence and effort in getting themselves organised each evening. Keep it up, boys!









SPORTING NEWS

RIDING

Isla S and her new pony Dory having a fantastic time together and winning their class. Congratulations **Isla.**



SNOWBOARDING

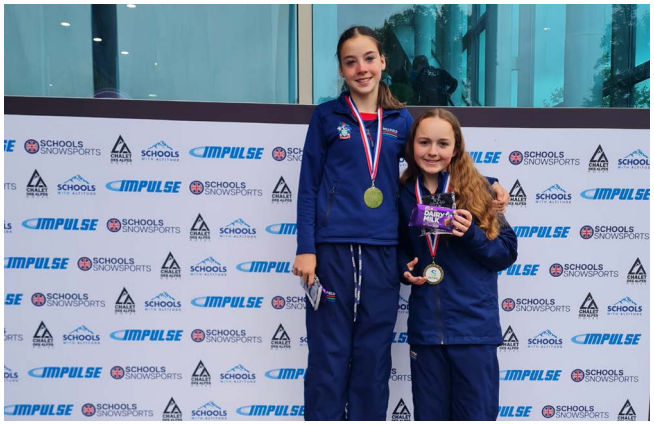
Congratulations to **Maverick M** who got gold in the Altitude National Indoor Championships on Wednesday.



SKIING

SATIPSKI Ski Championships

Huge congratulations to our skiers who competed in the SATIPSKI Ski Championships, organised by the National Schools Snowsports Association (NSSA).
This national event saw our students competing both as individuals and as part of school teams, with individual performances contributing to the overall team results. The students performed brilliantly throughout the competition. The championships featured a two-run slalom, with the fastest run determining the final results. We are incredibly proud of their effort, determination, and achievements on the slopes.
In the U14 girls' category, **Mia W** finished in 1st place and **Sammy M** finished 3rd. In the U14 boys' category, **Maverick M** finished 7th and **Louis D** finished 8th. In the U12 boys' category, **Rocco G** finished 12th.







ATHLETICS

It has been a busy week of competitions for all ages. Year 5 and 6 hosted athletes from All Hallows on Friday. All the athletes took part in every event, and we managed to fit a lot of athletics into the one-hour competition.
The weekend saw two days of championship action as we competed in Yeovil to try to become Somerset champions. The Year 6 athletes competed in an England Athletics event, and they all came home with medals. The seniors competed against athletes from across the county. **Taiai, Jess, Jac, Jonah, Tabby, Martha, Bea, and Gruff** are now Somerset champions, and we also had other athletes who made the podium.
The final event in this busy week was Round One of the English Schools' Cup. The senior boys and senior girls competed really well, and both teams won their events. We are now awaiting all the results to see where the teams will progress next.
Sports Day for Years 6, 7, and 8 will take place next Friday at the senior school. Teams will be selected tomorrow in house assemblies and adjusted throughout the week to give everyone the opportunity to compete. Fingers are firmly crossed for sunny weather!























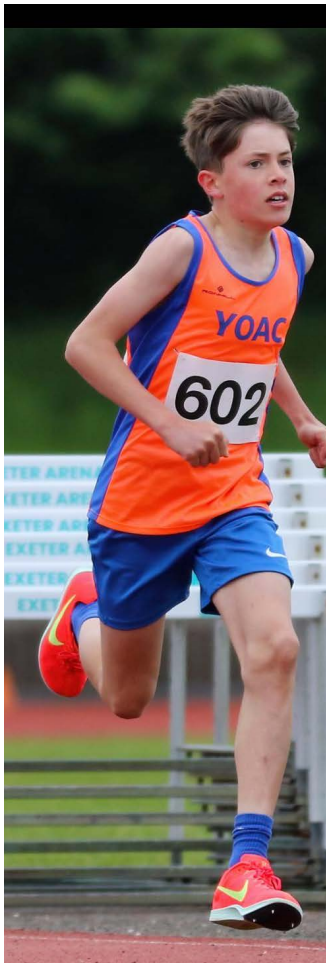
ATHLETICS

On Sunday, **Jonah B** ran for Yeovil Olympiads Athletic Club featuring over 20 clubs from across the region. Winning the U12 800m in a personal best time of 2:27, setting the fastest U12 800m time in the region and becoming the second fastest in the UK for his age group. Later this week, he competed in the Clayesmore Shield, where he won the Year 6 1500m in 5:10. The Year 6 boys also won the relay, with Jonah running the third leg.

The Millfield team across all year groups performed superbly. In particular, **Dion B** for winning the sprint event. Well done everyone who competed!













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IAPS SHOOTING

On 7 May, the Millfield Prep Shooting Team travelled to the West London Shooting School to compete in the IAPS Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition. With around 100 competitors taking part from schools across the country, the event provided an exciting and competitive atmosphere for all involved.

Shooting across five different stands, each participant tackled a variety of challenging targets and showed excellent concentration and composure throughout the day. The team performed strongly, achieving some impressive scores and supporting one another brilliantly during the competition.

A particular congratulations goes to Gyumin, who produced an excellent individual performance to finish in 4th place overall with a score of 40/50, missing out on third place by just a single clay. The competition was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for the whole team, and they should all be very proud of their efforts.






TENNIS

The tennis department has lots to report this week!
Congratulations to **Finn S, Reggie O and Rory S** for their win with Somerset County this weekend at 10U County Cup.
Sage O and Zara G on competing with Somerset 10U in County Cup.

We also had U13 girls IAPS this week. A great effort from **Meilin K, Deina G, Hope L and Marli D**. **Meilin and Deina** were 2nd in the group A's. Hope and Marli were winners of the group B's.

A great effort from everyone, it is great to see the progress being made every week.






SWIMMING

Southwest Regional Swimming Championships 9-10 May

Round 2 of the Regional Swimming Championships took place last weekend, and once again our swimmers delivered some fantastic performances. There were plenty of personal bests, great racing, and wonderful team spirit shown throughout the event.

Regional Medallists

- **Raffy C** – 1st 200m Backstroke, 2nd 400m Freestyle, 2nd 800m Freestyle
- **Sophia L** – 3rd 200m Freestyle
- **Elle P** – 3rd 800m Freestyle
- **Willow S** – 1st 100m Breaststroke, 1st Breaststroke, 1st 400m I.M, 2nd 100m Freestyle, 2nd 50m Butterfly, 3rd 100m

Backstroke

- **Joey W** – 3rd 50m Breaststroke

Finalists

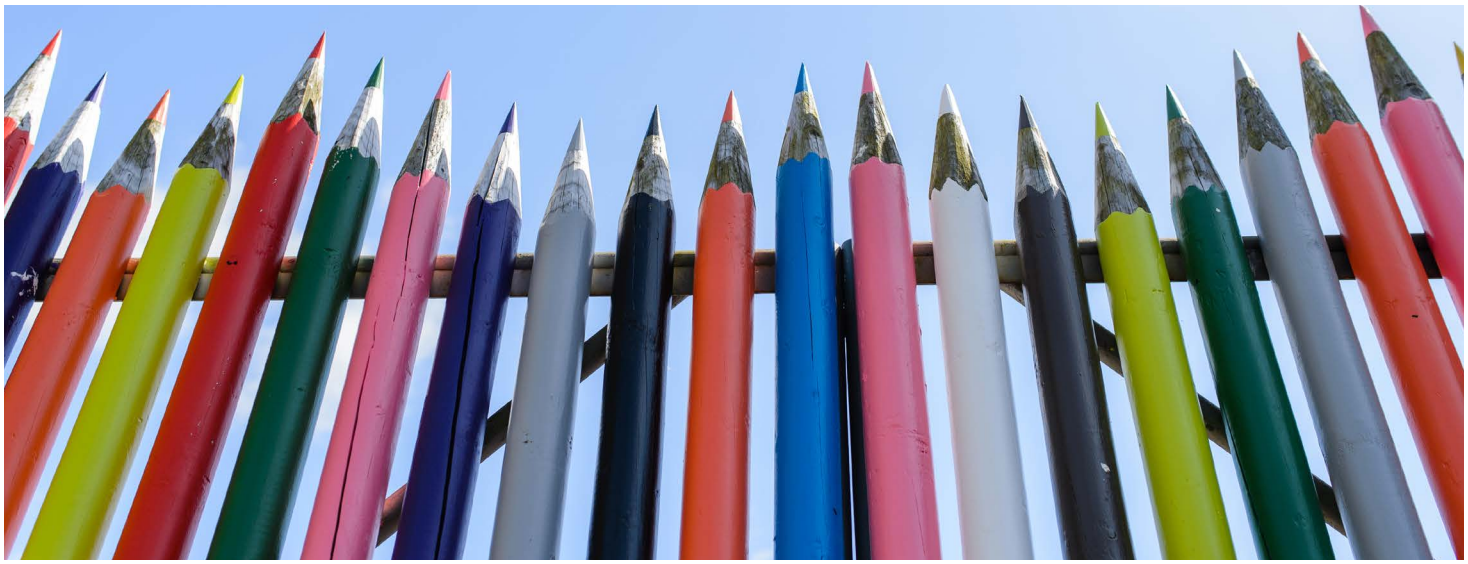
A huge congratulations to **Elodie B, Quanren C, Sophia E and Charlotte H**, who all swam brilliantly to reach their finals.
There were also many new personal bests achieved across the weekend, along with lots of valuable experience gained in competition. Well done to **Hunter B, Alex B, Evelyn D, Olga F, Rhydian F, Roy L, Toby M, Thea M, and Edward R** for achieving personal best times.
A special mention also goes to **Martha D**, who once again did a fantastic job as event announcer throughout the weekend. Her fun, enthusiastic, and engaging delivery was greatly appreciated by coaches, swimmers, and spectators alike!



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PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

It has certainly been a week of varied weather. From blustery winds and bursts of sunshine to chilly moments and heavy rain showers, the changing conditions have not dampened spirits, and plenty of learning has taken place across the Pre-Prep as always.

Our youngest learners in Tadpoles have been busy setting up their very own café, using their imagination and creativity to role play, communicate and collaborate. Frogs have been fascinated by their caterpillars, which have now transformed into cocoons. There is great excitement and curiosity as the children wonder what will happen next in this magical life cycle journey.

In Reception, anticipation is building as chicken eggs have been carefully placed into the incubator. The children are eagerly waiting and learning all about how chicks develop, and we look forward to seeing what happens over the coming days. Year 1 have been expanding their knowledge of the animal world by learning the names of baby animals. Perhaps they can impress you at home with how many they can remember!

Year 2 have enjoyed exploring our wonderful school grounds on a nature walk, taking time to observe and identify a variety of beautiful flowers. Finally, across Pre-Prep, smiles were also in abundance as all classes posed beautifully for their annual class photographs. Looking forward to seeing the final photographs.

Yours,

Mike

PRE-PREP

HOUSE TOTALS

HOUSE	ANGLES	DANES	JUTES	SAXONS
OVERALL	296	270	290	304

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TADPOLES

TADPOLE CAFE

This week we have had lots of fun in the Tadpole cafe! We noted the orders down on the pad, prepared the food, wrote up the bills and delivered these to the customers. We have decided to make our own milkshakes to enjoy at snack time using yummy ingredients from our shopping list.






FROGS

CATERPILLARS

We had a special delivery through the post; it was some caterpillars! Over the past couple of weeks we have been observing them and were very excited to see them in their cocoon stage. We have enjoyed listening to 'The Hungry Caterpillar' story and have created our own caterpillar pictures. We cannot wait for the final stage and to see what colours our butterflies might have.





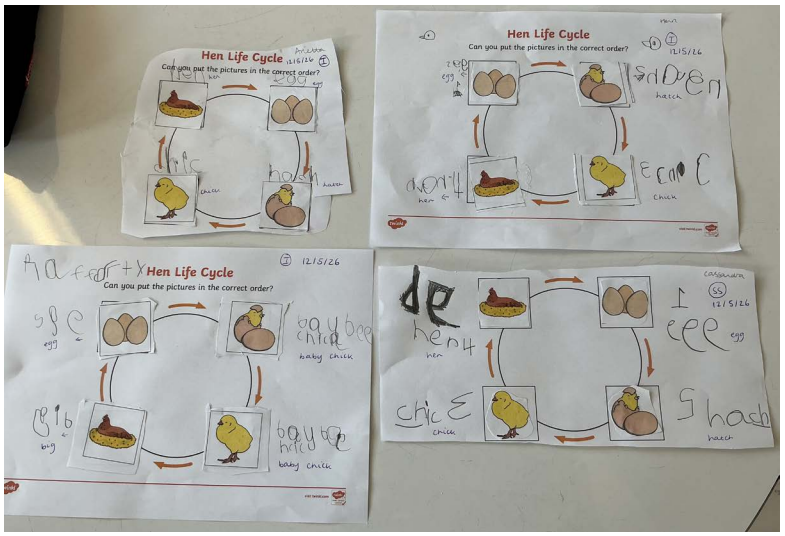


RECEPTION

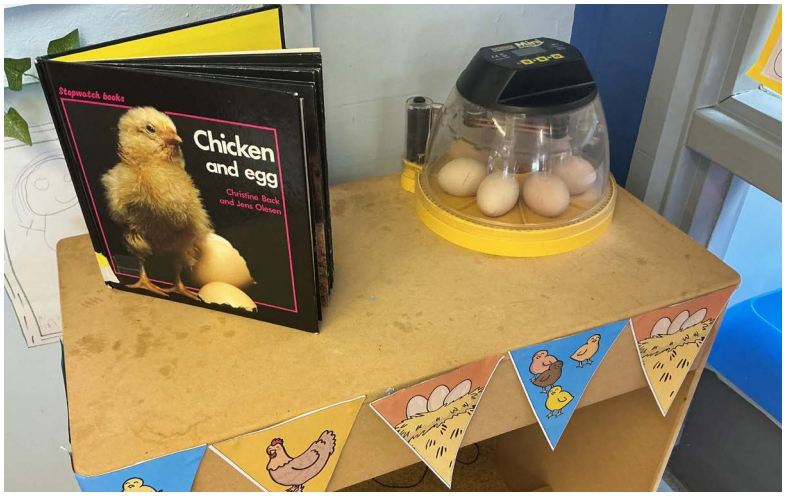
CHICKENS

This week, the children have begun exploring the life cycle of a chicken. We are very excited to have six Plymouth Rock eggs in our incubator. They are due to hatch in 21 days, so watch this space for updates.









YEAR 1

ANIMALS

