#919
16 OCTOBER 2026

MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

There is a tangible sense of anticipation in the air as I type this welcome message this morning, ahead of our House Singing competition at 11am. By the time you read this, I suspect that the result will already be known and the pupils will be learning one of life's hardest lessons about either being magnanimous in victory or gracious in defeat. Whatever the result, we always come away from House Singing feeling buoyed and energised by the effort, passion and positivity of the pupils. I am sure this year will be no different.

It has been an extremely pleasing start to the school year and, having caught up with a few 'new' pupils in lunch yesterday, it feels like nobody actually feels new anymore. This break will give everyone a chance to stop, down tools and really recharge the batteries. I do hope, wherever you and your children are spending the next two weeks, that you enjoy some precious and relaxing time with family and friends.

We will see you on the other side and we look forward to all the joys that the second half of the Autumn Term will bring.

Yours,
Dan

CONTENTS

Page 2
Parent Notices

Page 3-6
Events / Trips

Page 7-8
Subject Focus

Page 9-11
Boarding Life

Page 12-15
Sporting News

Page 16-18
Pre-Prep Newsletter

INTERNATIONAL BOARDING WEEK



EAL PUPIL OF THE WEEK

In just one year with us, **Ichika** has made staggering progress. Her vocabulary has exploded, her independence has grown especially in her writing, and she enjoys supporting others in the group. Fantastic work **Ichika**!



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

PARENT NOTICES

Saturday Sporting Commitments – Years 4-8

Following half term, we will continue to consider requests for absence from Saturday School to attend external sporting commitments.

Saturday lessons form an important part of a pupil's education and, whilst we recognise the value of external sporting commitments, we aim to balance these opportunities with the benefits of regular participation in the Saturday academic programme. As such, we would not normally expect pupils to miss academic time on a regular basis for lower-level sporting competitions.

As a general principle, absences will only be authorised for pupils competing at Academy, Regional or National standard. Participation at JPL or County level may be authorised on an occasional basis for significant events, such as major tournaments or finals, but not for regular fixtures.

Requests relating to grassroots sport will not normally be approved and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Whilst we remain committed to considering each request on its individual merits, our expectation is that pupils attend school each Saturday. Please continue to submit requests via the Parent Portal.

PSB Talk

Further to the PSB talk on the 25 September, we are pleased to share some additional information. Details about the Curriculum at the Prep can be found here, and more specific information about PSB can be found here.

If you would like to discuss in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Group Tutor or Head of Year.





Prep Social Media Accounts

Stay up to date on the latest news and events!

Instagram	@millfieldschool @millfieldschoolpreprep
Facebook	Millfield Prep School
YouTube	Millfield Prep School
Podcast	The Millfield School Podcast

Subject specific news on Instagram:

Sport	@MPS_Sport
Outdoor Activities	@mps_outdoors
Music Activities	@mpsmusic_
Rowing	@mpsrowing
Golf	@millfieldprep_golf
Co-Curricular	@mps_cocurricular
Tennis	@millfieldprep_tennis
Equestrian	@equestrianmps
Performing Arts	@mpsperformingarts
Football	@millfieldprepfootball

HELLO YELLOW

Last Friday, pupils and staff wore yellow to support Hello Yellow, an annual campaign run by the mental health charity YoungMinds to raise awareness of young people's mental health and show them that they are not alone.

The campaign encourages us to look after our mental health, support one another and remember that it is always okay to ask for help when we need it. It was wonderful to see so many pupils show their support for this important cause and spreading kindness and positivity.























THE BOARDERS' CHARITY SWIM CHALLENGE

The Boarders' Charity Swim Challenge was a truly outstanding event, bringing together 80 boarders to raise money for the Glastonbury and Street Lions. Swimmers of all ages and abilities eagerly took part, demonstrating incredible determination, resilience, and community spirit throughout the challenge.

From the moment the event began, the atmosphere was electric. The poolside was filled with energy and encouragement as boarders cheered one another on. Whether aiming to complete just a few lengths or pushing themselves to swim as far as possible, every participant played an important role in the success of the event.

Collectively, the boarders swam just short of an incredible 65,000 metres, equivalent to almost 40 miles. To put this achievement into perspective, that is nearly the distance of a return journey between Dover and Calais. This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to the commitment and effort shown by everyone involved.

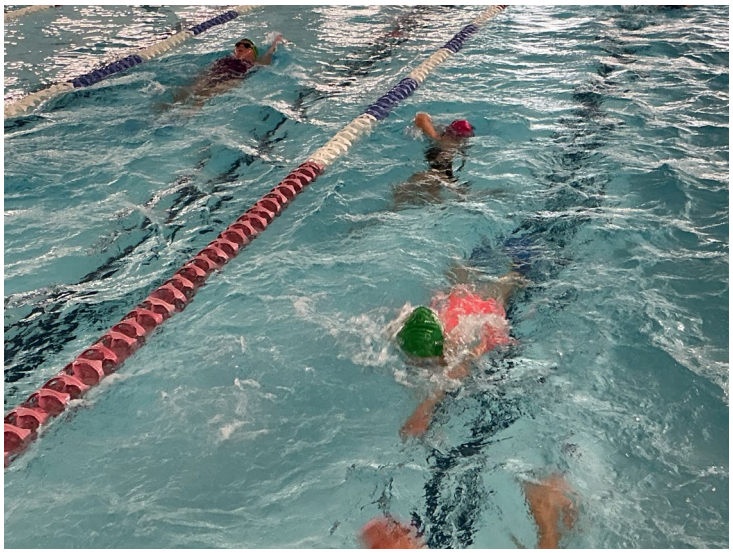
What made the challenge particularly special was the way boarders supported and motivated one another throughout. Strong swimmers encouraged those less experienced, while housemates and friends celebrated every milestone achieved. The event perfectly reflected the values of boarding life.

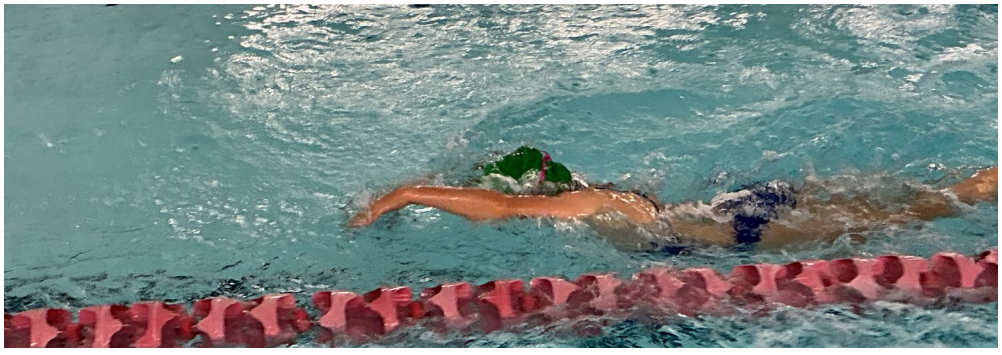
The Swim Challenge was not only a tremendous sporting achievement but also an opportunity to support a wonderful local cause. The boarders have already raised close to £500 for the Glastonbury and Street Lions, a fantastic achievement that will help make a meaningful difference within the local community.

A huge congratulations and thank you goes to all 80 boarders who took part. The event an unforgettable success and a wonderful example of what can be achieved when the boarding community comes together for a common cause. The energy and spirit on display throughout the challenge was truly inspiring.

If you would like to contribute to this fantastic cause and help the boarders increase their fundraising total, please see the link here to make a donation.

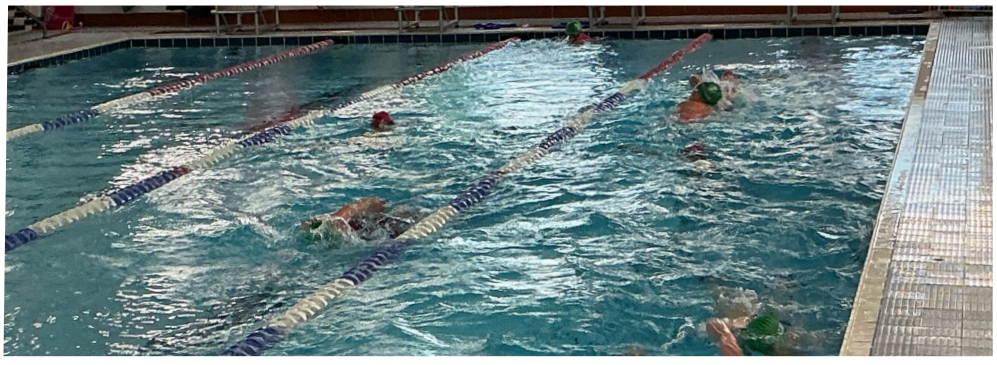












HOUSE SINGING





























YEAR 7 AND 8 SHAPWICK MOOR TRIP

Shapwick Moor Nature Reserve, located on the Somerset Levels and managed by the Hawk and Owl Trust, is a beautiful wetland area visited for its wildlife, peaceful walking trails, and stunning views towards Glastonbury Tor. For the past 15 years, Millfield Prep has built a strong link with the reserve, giving our pupils the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to this special place.

Every Wednesday afternoon, as part of our enrichment programme, a group of Year 7 and Year 8 pupils visit the reserve to take part in conservation work. The Reserve Warden is always delighted to welcome our pupils, whose enthusiasm and hard work make a real difference. It is remarkable to see the impact that just 90 minutes of teamwork each week can have on the landscape.

Over the years, pupils have been involved in a wide variety of projects, including clearing ditches, maintaining footpaths, planting trees and hedges, creating wetland habitats, building a bird hide, repairing benches, moving soil and deadwood, and even constructing a hibernaculum for snakes.

We are incredibly proud of the commitment shown by our pupils and the positive contribution they continue to make to this wonderful local nature reserve.

To find out more about Shapwick Moor Nature Reserve and the work of the Hawk and Owl Trust, please visit www.hawkandowl.org

















ART

Year 6 BVG and JRB headed to the Atkinson Gallery at Millfield School to see the exhibition, 'Conceal Reveal'. Pupils worked in pairs to explore the artwork through questions and tasks, before voting for their favourite piece. This demonstrated fantastic curiosity, reflections and interest in the work around them.













FOOD TECHNOLOGY

This week, pupils made burgers, focusing on presentation and plating to make their dishes look as good as they tasted! Here are a few pictures of their finished dishes.







RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Two weeks ago, the Year 7s spent a day in Glastonbury, following in the footsteps of ancient and modern pilgrims. They discovered the history of religious influence in Glastonbury through stories shared at the Abbey, a spiritual exploration of St Margaret's Chapel, and a deeper understanding of how the almshouses and community garden continue to serve the local community today. They also learned how Muslims in Glastonbury and the surrounding villages worship at Glastonbury Muslim Community Mosque. Finally, they explored how the churches of Glastonbury provide places of worship, as well as support for those who need it throughout the week. It was a full day of walking and learning about spirituality in Glastonbury today, led by the Group Tutors.













BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES

Last weekend, the girls enjoyed an autumnal walk through the school grounds, ending with a treasure hunt in the forest. How lucky we are to still be enjoying such wonderful weather and to have such beautiful grounds that we can make the most of!

The girls have also been celebrating International Boarding Week, as well as a very special Hollies milestone: our lovely Cecily turning 13! The occasion was marked with a delicious takeaway treat and the most fitting Taylor Swift-themed birthday cake.

We are now looking forward to House Singing on Friday and a joyful end to a wonderfully busy first half of term. We hope you all have a fantastic half-term break with your lovely girls, filled with plenty of rest, fun and precious family time.









CHESTNUT

What a wonderful week we have had celebrating International Boarders' Week in Chestnut House! The girls enjoyed a variety of activities both within the house and across the wider boarding community. A particular highlight was the whole-boarding quiz evening, which brought all boarders together for some friendly competition, teamwork and lots of fun. In Chestnut, the girls enjoyed making pancakes inspired by memories of home. Using their home flags as inspiration, they decorated their creations while sharing stories, traditions and special memories from around the world. It was a lovely opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity within our boarding family and learn more about each other's cultures. There was also plenty of laughter and energy during our Just Dance sessions, with everyone getting involved and showing off their moves.

On Saturday, the girls enjoyed a trip to Tesco, giving them the chance to pick up a few treats, for their cosy movie night. It has been a fun-filled week with many opportunities to celebrate cultures, strengthen friendships and create lasting memories. We are proud of how enthusiastically the girls embraced the activities and supported one another throughout the celebrations. As we break for half term, we would like to wish all our families a restful, happy and enjoyable holiday. We look forward to welcoming the girls back to Chestnut refreshed and ready for another exciting half term.











BEREWALL

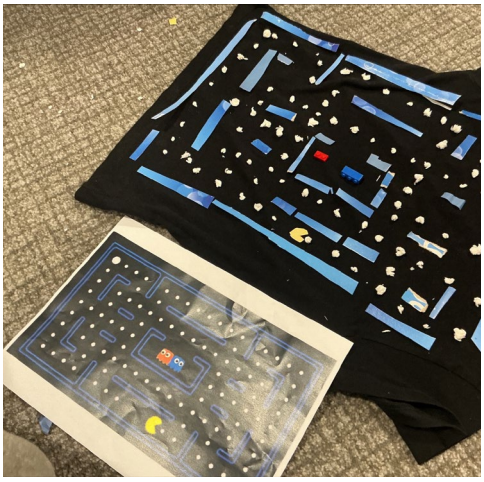
The Berewall boys have not stopped all week to the lead up to half term and the ever-anticipated house singing. The boys were treated to a trip to Tesco's on Saturday evening. We loaded up in the minibus and let them loose with some money to work on their budget skills and to see who had an eye for a bargain. We were pleasantly surprised with the arrays for goodies that arrived back at Berewall, it was a mix of frozen pizzas to noodles, ice creams, and drinks. In fact, we had so much that we had to spread the enjoyment to Wednesday evening for the boys to finish them. This made them readily fuelled for the sponsored swim on Sunday afternoon. Our boys all did us proud and tried their best for a worthy cause. The day was rounded off nicely with a quiz in the dining hall for international boarding week…well done boys! The rest of the week has been back to work, with prep a big focus and the inevitable packing.

On Tuesday evening, for our tech free activity, the Berewall boys were challenged to recreate scenes from classic console games. From Pac-Man to Sonic the Hedgehog, Super Mario to Mario Kart in 30 minutes using no tech and only what they can find and use creatively. There was some real enthusiasm on display and a great buzz in the house. We are now ready to enjoy a well deserved half term. Our boys have had a great start to the school year and can all feel very proud of themselves. A big, early happy birthday to **Hudson** and **Gabriel**, who will celebrate birthdays in the holidays. We will see you all when we get back. Happy half term all!









CHAMPION

A brilliant and busy final week of the half term!
Folarin and **Folami** kindly treated everyone to an end-of-term treat, with pizza and ice cream all round. Thank you boys, it was very much appreciated!

We also celebrated International Boarding Week with a delicious spread of international food in the dining hall. The boys put their knowledge to the test in a quiz, and some of our Champion boys proudly formed the winning team! As part of International Boarding week, some of the boys coloured in flags from around the world and talked about festivals and celebrations that are important to them and food that reminds them of home.

The annual conker championships also took place this week, with **Ajay** battling his way through numerous opponents to be crowned champion. Well done, **Ajay**!

Mrs Wren popped in for a visit with her two little sausage dogs, Raymond and Minnie. The boys were delighted to welcome them and made sure they received plenty of cuddles!

Finally, we had a couple of birthdays to celebrate this week, with two boys officially becoming teenagers! Happy birthday to **Ted** and **William.** We enjoyed some lovely birthday cakes to celebrate. What a wonderful way to end the half term!



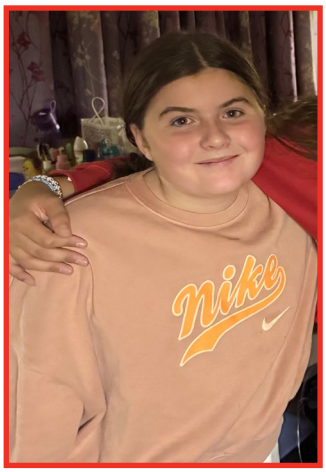








HALF TERM BRILLIANT BOARDERS



HOLLIES

Our Brilliant Boarder for this half term is **Quynn C**! Throughout the term, **Quynn** has shown tremendous kindness, empathy, resilience and organisation. She makes a genuine effort to check in with everyone around her, whether they are younger pupils, members of her own year group or adults, and is always looking for ways to help and serve others. **Quynn** is wonderfully funny, brings brilliant banter to the house and can be remarkably insightful at the same time. She contributes so much to the warmth and spirit of Hollies, and we feel incredibly lucky to have her. Huge congratulations, **Quynn**, a thoroughly deserving Brilliant Boarder!





CHAMPION

Our brilliant boarder for this half term is **Oliver!**
Since joining us in September, Oliver has shown incredible resilience in adapting to boarding life at such a young age and being so far away from home. He has made a fantastic start, demonstrating growing independence by organising himself each day and keeping his dorm space neat and tidy.

Oliver is polite, well-mannered and a genuinely lovely boy to have around. It has been a pleasure to see him settle in so well and embrace all that boarding life has to offer.

Well done, **Oliver**! You should be very proud of the brilliant start you have made.





BEREWELL

The Berewall Brilliant Boarder for this half term is **Juan**. Since the start of the year, Juan has shown a great work ethic, kindness, and reliability. He has embraced the Berewall ethos, our routine, and our school values. He completes his evening jobs with little fuss and to a very high standard, always with a big smile. Well done, **Juan**, we are proud of you and hope that you enjoy your evening out to dinner when you return after half term.

CHESTNUT

Phoebe is our Brilliant Boarder for this term. She has made an exceptional start to life at MPS this term. Although new to the school, she has settled into boarding brilliantly and quickly become a valued member of the house community. Phoebe brings a wonderful sense of humour and a great deal of laughter to those around her, making her a joy to have in the house. **Phoebe's** kindness, compassion, humour and willingness to support others have already made a lasting impression. She is a fantastic role model for younger boarders and a wonderful addition to the Chestnut family. Well done **Phoebe**!

Sofia is our Fabulous Flexi Boarder for this term. She brings positivity and energy to the house whenever she joins us. Having considerable experience of flexi boarding, she settles in effortlessly and makes the most of every opportunity. **Sofia** is always keen to get involved in house activities and her fun-loving nature helps create a happy atmosphere for everyone around her. **Sofia** is a joy to have in the house, and her cheerful personality, willingness to participate, and positive contribution to the boarding community are greatly appreciated. We always look forward to welcoming her into Chestnut and seeing the enjoyment she brings to others. Well done **Sofia!**



SPORTING NEWS

CROSS COUNTRY

On Monday, our senior runners raced in the Somerset Schools Junior Championships. It is a course that they have run before and they used their knowledge to run strongly. In the Year 8 girls, **Bea** finished in silver, **Elodie** in 7th, **Izzy** in 8th and **Sophia** in 11th . A great team performance.

The Year 7 girls dominated their race, finishing 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. **Bella** is now Somerset champion with **Gracie** and **Nova** joining her on the podium and **Fola** just outside the medals this time. There was a clash with a football cup game so it was only **Max** that was available. He ran a much more measured race than last time and he can be pleased with his progress this half term. In the Year 7 boys, **Jonah** claimed the county title with **Charlie** and **Massimo** finishing 2nd and 5th respectively. A really good way to end the first half term. We have some big races after half term and the teams will be trying to make it to the National Final and claim some silverware in the other races we will be in.









GOLF

Matilda R was selected to play in her first major event for Somerset Girls. The 6 counties event was held at West Wilts GC last weekend and with tough conditions **Matilda** helped her team to finish in 4th place.

Immy W played in the First4Golf event at Weston-super-Mare GC and took the changes she has been working on in her lessons straight out onto the course to secure an excellent victory in her age group.

Ben T represented Somerset U12s in the 5 counties event. **Ben** finished second individually and helped lead Somerset to a tie at the top of the leaderboard with the victory being awarded to Cornwall on countback.

George W has had an amazing golfing season reducing his handicap down to 2, with the highlight being a competition at Bearwood Lakes where he scored a gross 75. **George** also had an incredible opportunity to play with The Open Champion Ryan Fox for 18 holes at Foxhills GC. Seeing one of the top players in the world up close was a great experience, with George playing some solid golf at the same time. George was even able to hold the Claret Jug after the round!







EQUESTRIAN

Layla had a fabulous round at the Halloween Showjumping in the 60cm and 70cm. The effort all the riders went to with their fancy-dress costumes was brilliant! Well done to all of the riders who took part in the competition, every one rode very well. Pre-Prep riding club have also been having lots of fun in the spirit of Halloween!





Aria was riding Fred in the Halloween competition dressed as a minion! Here is a photo of **Aria** and Fred this week!





Catherine and her own pony Holly in our Halloween Show with fab fancy dress!

HOCKEY

The U13A girls competed in the IAPS Nationals Hockey Qualifier on Wednesday. They got off to an anxious start against Monkton, but managed to contain their nerves and win 4-0. The next two group games went smoothly, beating St Peters 4-1 and Dumpton 2-0. Up next, was a strong looking Cheltenham College. The girls conceded early but came back twice to draw 2-2. This game was possibly the toughest opposition the girls had played, which took its toll and fatigue saw a non-eventful 0-0 draw v Taunton follow, which would later hamper the girls progress. The top of the group was tight, and Millfield Prep were leading with one final match v Beaudesert. The girls created goal scoring opportunities and penalty corners, but sadly came away with their first loss of the day, 0-1. This resulted in them becoming 3rd in the group and not progressing to compete for a place in the National Finals. After, rightly so, some disappointment, the girls agreed to proudly finish on a positive in the Plate competition. Again, opportunities were plentiful but no clinical finishing meant both the semi-final v Port Regis and final v Kings Taunton, ended 0-0, which led to penalty shoot outs. The girls won the semi-final 3-1 and the final 2-0 on shuffles, displaying composure and silky skills, whilst **Evie** defended the goal fantastically, coming off her line superbly.

The girls have improved hugely over the half term, and reflecting on the experience, they should be proud of how far they've come, but also only losing one match all day. Today's experience will help them develop further for the second half of term, taking on the Somerset Counties and hopefully West Finals in the In2 Hockey England Nationals Qualifier.
Team - **Evie, Hope, Grace, Immy, Bea, Meilin, Deina, Arabella** and **Floss.**





FOOTBALL

Super Monday saw three Year 8 boys teams all playing football, Year 8 A Team v Bryanston in ISFA Cup, Year 8 B Team v Norton Hill in the County Cup and Year 8 C Team v Fairlands in a friendly. Across all teams 35 players (not all pictured) got to represent the school in fixtures during their allotted games sessions for the week. Well done to all involved.






Lots of happy faces for our U8 and U9s boys teams after playing lots of football matches this week!



The U11 girls had a fantastic time playing against Leehurst Swan School! All the girls pictured played exceptionally well, showing great enthusiasm, teamwork and a real love for the game. It was particularly lovely to see some of those new to the sport discovering a new passion along the way. Well done, girls – you should be very proud!

SWIMMING

A huge congratulations to the 28 Millfield Prep swimmers who represented the Senior School in the A and B Arena League teams during Round 1 of this prestigious competition in Newport. Often described as the Premier League of swimming, the Arena League brings together strong teams from across the region, with every race contributing valuable points to the overall team score. The galas were packed with excitement, noise, face paint, and fantastic team spirit. Every swimmer played their part, and both teams delivered outstanding performances, finishing the evening with 369 and 252 points respectively. Well done to everyone involved!





#919
16 OCTOBER 2026

MILLFIELD
PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



As we reach the end of a busy and rewarding half term, it is wonderful to reflect on all that the children have achieved. Across all classes, there has been a tremendous amount of learning taking place, with children embracing new challenges, developing their skills and growing in confidence every day.

We have been particularly proud of the way the children have demonstrated our school values: Be Kind, Be You, Be Challengers, Be Curious and Be Brilliant. Well done to Angles for winning the most house points this half term. These values have been evident in classrooms, on the playground, during trips and performances, and in the many opportunities the children have had both in and out of school.

There have been so many highlights this half term, from exciting learning experiences, fundraising activities, creative projects and memorable moments on stage. Ask your child about their favourite part of the half term – we are sure they will have plenty of stories to share!

We would like to thank all our families for their continued support and wish you a wonderful half term holiday. We hope you enjoy some well-deserved time together to relax, rest and recharge. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for an exciting next half term as we begin the countdown to Christmas.

Have a happy and restful break.

Yours,
Mike

PRE-PREP

HOUSE TOTALS

HOUSE	ANGLES	DANES	JUTES	SAXONS
OVERALL	1129	1051	1129	1089

TADPOLES

CLIMBING

This week, the Tadpoles have been exploring the climbing apparatus. They climbed high up the ladders, balanced on the beam, and swung on the ropes. Using their bent knees and swinging arms, they practised their jumping and landing.






FROGS

PUMPKINS

Whilst hammering tacs in pumpkins, **Jonah** wondered if the pumpkins were hollow. **River** told him there were seeds inside, so we decided to take a look. We each guessed what might be inside and then cut the pumpkin open to find out. We all had 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, yucky! We then made some 'pumpkin soup' in the water tray to play with. Great work Frogs.









RECEPTION

EXPLORING

Last week, the children painted their very own ping pong ball planets, and over the weekend we transformed them into mini planets! How amazing do they look? The children haven't seen them yet, so we're very excited to reveal them today! In the meantime, we thought we'd share some photos of them glowing in the dark. They look even more effective at night and really bring our Space topic to life! We can't wait to see the children's reactions when they discover them today!






YEAR 1

FROM A TO B

Continuing our A to B topic, the children have been learning about different types of maps. We explored a large world map, as well as maps of the UK, Glastonbury and our school. The children also looked at maps of farm parks and other places they might visit on a day out. Through these activities, they learned about map symbols and how to use a map key to find information. The children then applied their new knowledge by taking part in an exciting orienteering adventure around the school, using maps to guide themselves to different locations, ending up in Forest School for some independent learning time.







YEAR 2

ORIENTATION

Year 2 enjoyed an orienteering session this week. They used different types of maps to find their location around the school, and finished their session in Forest School.





