#922
20 NOVEMBER 2026

MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

As another action-packed and enjoyable week comes to a close, I find myself reflecting on how on earth we have reached the second Exeat of the term already!

Mr Hilton started the week off with a really powerful Assembly, as part of Anti-Bullying Week, on 'Breaking the silence'. He highlighted the reasons why children sometimes don't want to tell others about things that are upsetting them, encouraging them to be better upstanders and break the stigma around 'snitching'. It was a highly relevant and apposite message, and a great reminder to the pupils of why being open is so important.

The Ensembles Concert on Tuesday was such a joyous event and, as I said at the time, only in a Prep school could such disparate pieces as a Remembrance ode, an Earth Wind and Fire song and a theme from the Riverdance be heard one after the other but still work perfectly! Well done to all the pupils who took part in this warming celebration of music.

Talking of celebrations, our Celebration Assembly yesterday reminded me of just what an amazing body of pupils we have, who make exceptional achievements seem perfectly normal. Whether it be all of our senior girls' hockey teams making the West of England finals, our U13 boys' football finishing second in the Nationals, our artists displaying their skills in the pictures of the week and the Christmas Card competition, the Irish U15 International Open squash winner, or the four pupils who have just been crowned world champions, the modesty on show after such outstanding achievements was wonderful. There are not many schools who would have that much success in a year let alone within the first nine weeks of the Autumn Term!

I hope our Year 8 pupils enjoyed their Discovery Day at Millfield today. And, as ever, whatever you are doing this weekend, I do hope that the children (and you!) will find a little time to rest ahead of the final push to the end of term. Enjoy Exeat!

Yours,
Dan

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is by Beattie R-W in 8REH.



ODD SOCKS DAY

Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week.



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

PARENT NOTICES

Carol Service - Millfield Prep parents only

We are delighted to invite parents, grandparents and carers to our Carol Service on Friday 11 December from 2.00pm 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. 3.00pm. 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 4.30pm.
Pre-Prep will finish at 3.00pm and children will need to be collected from school.



ALICE IN WONDERLAND
MILLFIELD DANCE 2026

Prep pupils are warmly invited to attend the Senior School Dance Show, Alice in Wonderland.

Tickets can be booked via the Eventbrite link.
Dance Show 2026: Alice in Wonderland Tickets, Multiple dates | Eventbrite

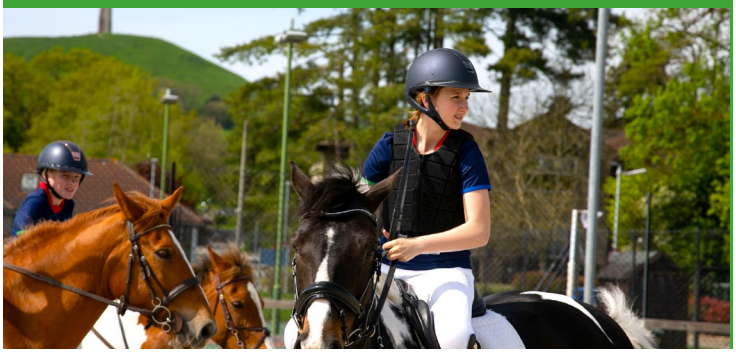
Wednesday 2 – Friday 4 December 2026

EQUESTRIAN NEWS

20 November 2026 at 3.30pm – Exeat Fun Session

22 November 2026 NSEA County SJ at Kings Sedgemore Equestrian Centre

25 November 2026 1pm – 3pm Equine Explorers





Congratulations to this Year's Christmas Card Competition winners, Gethin H, Year 7 (left) and Verity B, Year 6 (right).









LIBRARY CRAFT CLUB

THURSDAYS
12.30-1.10PM

Our new Library Craft Club meets every Thursday lunchtime, with pupils getting creative and making Christmas decorations. We'll be crafting all the way up to Christmas, so there's plenty more to come!















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 2 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 **Tuesday 8th December**, to allow us to deliver them to the Salvation Army.

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, puzzles
- **3-5:** dolls and action figures, cars, lorries, colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles
- **5-9:** educational games & toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), books, puzzles, wordsearch, crosswords
- **9-12:** games and toys, stationery, 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 in advance for your help and kindness.

MUSART









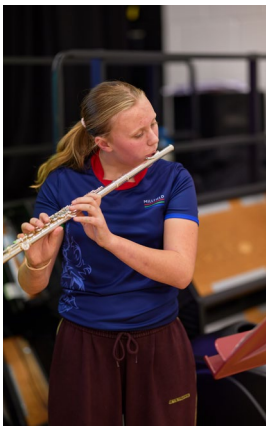















AUTUMN CONCERT

This year's Autumn Concert took place for the first time in the smaller, more intimate setting of the Recital Hall, providing a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the incredible talent and enthusiasm of 51 of our young musicians.

Our Year 2 pupils opened the concert in spectacular style with a fabulous performance of Long Note Groove, showcasing all their hard work learning brass instruments in their music lessons this term. Considering that these young musicians only picked up their instruments for the first time in September, the confidence and polish of their performance was quite remarkable. We certainly think we have some budding professional brass players in the making!

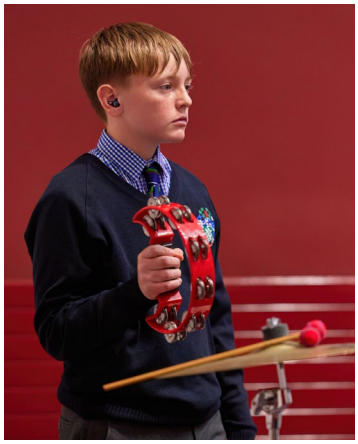
The audience was then treated to a wonderfully varied programme of music! The String Orchestra impressed with two beautifully polished performances of Fanfare and Gospel Rock, whilst our brilliant Jazz and Blues Ensemble had everyone tapping their toes to 12 Bar Blues. The Brass Group gave a rousing rendition of the William Tell Overture, demonstrating some exceptionally accomplished playing and Edgarley Voices provided a beautiful contrast with their moving and poised performance of Flanders Fields. There was an impossibly infectious rendition of September from our Percussion Ensemble, performed with tremendous flair and style before the Concert Band brought the afternoon to a thrilling close with an energetic and enthusiastic rendition of Lord of the Dance. What a fantastic way to finish!

A sincere thank you must also go to our wonderful music staff for preparing the ensembles so brilliantly and to the catering team for providing audience members with some delicious cakes and mince pies before the concert and providing the performers with some extremely well-received chocolate chip cookies at the end! Huge congratulations again to all 51 pupils who took part in what was a truly wonderful afternoon of music-making. Their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm were evident in every performance, and we feel exceptionally lucky to have so many talented and dedicated young musicians at the school. We can't wait to hear them all perform again at future concerts and events!















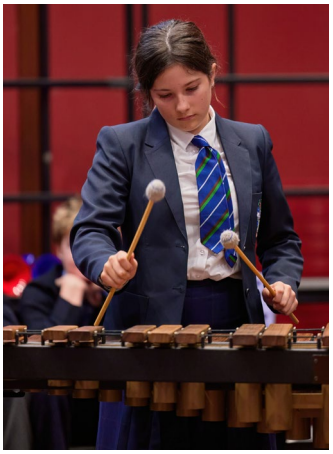












BOARDING TRIP TO WESTON'S GRAND PIER

























ENGLISH

Year 7 are currently studying Gothic Literature in English. As part of the unit, pupils have become Gothic literature experts and researched key aspects of the Gothic genre, including famous authors, classic texts, characters and atmospheric settings. Miss Jones' classes have showcased their learning by creating these fantastic dioramas, featuring everything from haunted houses and eerie graveyards to mysterious ghosts and Gothic landscapes!



YEAR 5 FOREST SCHOOL







BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES

The girls had a fantastic time dancing the night away at our Neon Disco with their Chestnut sisters this weekend, followed by a trip to Weston's Grand Pier for plenty of games, rides, laughter and classic British seaside fun.

We also loved celebrating **Ellie** and **Lara's** 12th birthdays—happy birthday to you both! Alongside the festivities, the girls enthusiastically supported Children in Need Day and embraced Odd Socks Day, proudly celebrating individuality and standing together against bullying. Huge congrats to our amazing **Lea** who won the Irish Open Squash in the U15 category in Dublin last weekend!













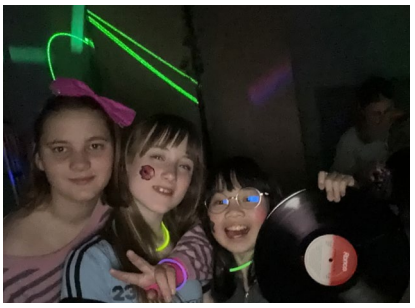
CHESTNUT

What a fun-filled week it has been in Chestnut! The girls have enjoyed a wonderful mix of activities, laughter, and time spent together. One of the highlights was Friday evening at Forest School, where everyone gathered around the campfire to toast marshmallows and make delicious s'mores. Saturday evening, we joined our Hollies sisters for a fantastic Neon Disco. The girls embraced the theme with great enthusiasm, spending time creating colourful neon artwork using old LP records before heading to the dance floor. The evening was full of energy, music, dancing, and plenty of smiles, making it a memorable event for all involved. This week also saw Chestnut getting involved in Anti-Bullying Week by wearing odd socks. It was wonderful to see such commitment across the house and to celebrate the importance of kindness, inclusion, and respecting differences. We were also delighted to celebrate a belated birthday for **Velanie**. The house came together to enjoy plenty of pizza and mark the occasion in true Chestnut style. Happy Birthday, **Velanie**! As we reach the end of another busy and enjoyable week, we wish all our families a restful and enjoyable Exeat weekend.











BEREWALL

The Berewall boys have had a blast this week, with a multitude of birthdays to keep their pizza and donut intake at record levels. The weekend was our termly take-away evening, so the boys scanned the menus for a choice of either Dominos pizza or some Chinese food. The common room had a great buzz as the boys tucked into their meals after a great day of sports. The Sunday trip was a visit to the ever-popular Weston-super-mare pier. They boys returned full of smiles after a lovely day dodging the rain! It was soon back to reality when we started our evening routine. Checking prep, packing bags and putting in washing, so they were all set for the week ahead. Monday was a double celebration with Ted and Gabriel having the same birthday. We also had a belated birthday celebration for Hudson, who turned 13 at half term. Happy birthday boys! They were all were serenaded by the Berewall choir and as usual, the enthusiasm definitely outweighed the harmonies!! We may need Mrs Sturges to pop down one evening. Mr J set up a pool and table tennis competition for our boys to enjoy in the run up to Christmas. Stay tuned for updates! Wednesday was our annual `Guess the baby` competition for Children in Need. It never disappoints. We had some great baby photos of the boys and it was a lot of fun. Well done boys, for being great sports! We now look forward to Exeat with our thoughts leaning towards Christmas trees and decorating the house….we can't wait! Have a great Exeat.











CHAMPION

Another week has whizzed by!

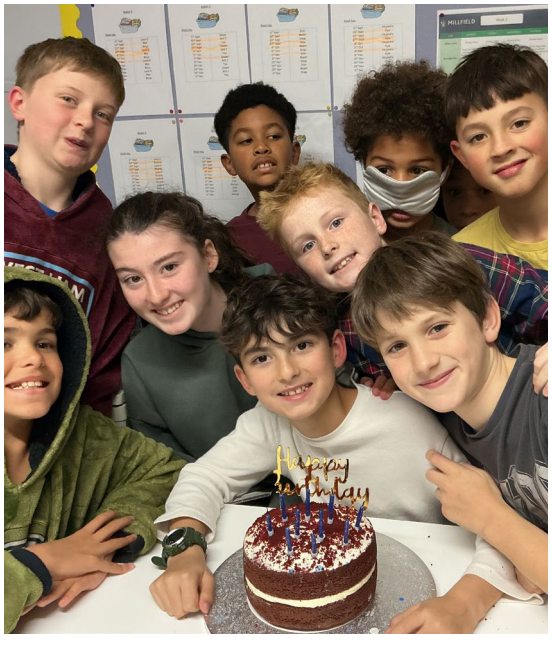
Some of the boys enjoyed getting creative in the kitchen on Saturday afternoon, making cookies. They followed a recipe and worked brilliantly together. The kitchen smelled absolutely delightful, and we certainly have some budding chefs in the house! On Sunday, the boys headed off for a trip to Weston Pier. Although the day got off to a wet start, it certainly didn't dampen anyone's spirits! The boys enjoyed lots of activities on the pier, followed by a hearty fish and chip lunch. We also had a birthday to celebrate! We wished Drake a very happy birthday and marked the occasion with a lovely afternoon tea-style snack of triangle sandwiches and cakes. Happy birthday, **Drake**!











SPORTING NEWS

MOUNTAIN BIKING





EQUESTRIAN

Last Wednesday our riders had the opportunity to train with Flo Norris, an OM and International Show Jumper. Everyone thrived practicing new exercises.







Isla and Dory flying round their first 80cm together at Mendip Planes Equestrian.

Prep Equestrian Council Announcement

Congratulations to the following riders who have been selected to serve on the Prep Equestrian Council:

Toby R
Aria M
Elle C
We are delighted to announce that **Toby R** has been appointed Head of the Prep Equestrian Council.

The next council meeting will take place on 26th November 2026.

We wish all council members every success in their new roles and look forward to their contributions to the Prep Equestrian programme.

Cornelia and Fergus at MPEC, placing first in the 1m, 2nd in the 90am and qualified for the Winter Blue-chip Championships



HOCKEY

The Under-12 girls' hockey team have enjoyed an excellent week, competing in both the IAPS National Hockey Competition and the Somerset County Cup, with two memorable days of hockey.

Friday saw the girls travel to compete in the IAPS National Competition. After a challenging start, with a few early defeats and goals difficult to come by, the pressure was on heading into their final group fixture if they were to qualify for the Plate competition. Despite going 1–0 down, the girls showed tremendous resilience, determination and character to fight back and secure a victory, finishing fourth in their pool and progressing into the Plate.

The afternoon fixtures really brought out the best in the team, with some excellent performances and victories in the knockout stages. One particularly memorable moment came after conceding a last-minute equaliser, when the girls held their nerve to win the subsequent penalty shuffle competition. This set up a Plate final showdown against Hazelgrove. Unfortunately, they were unable to secure victory on this occasion, but the girls can be incredibly proud of their efforts, finishing the day with silver medals around their necks and, more importantly, smiles on their faces. It was a fantastic opportunity for the squad to develop, learn and grow together as a team.

Well done to all the girls involved across both competitions. They have worked exceptionally hard throughout the season and thoroughly deserved the success they have enjoyed. Two fantastic days of hockey and a great reward for their commitment, teamwork and determination.







HOCKEY

Somerset County Hockey Finals

A fantastic week for our hockey girls, resulting in being the only school in the Somerset County to qualify all three age groups through to the West of England Finals.

U11 Millfield Prep

After suffering a convincing 6-3 defeat to All Hallows earlier in the season, the U11A girls showed remarkable determination and development when it mattered most. Facing the same opposition in the Somerset County Championship final, the team produced an outstanding performance to secure a hard-fought 3-2 victory and claim the county title.

The final was a closely contested encounter, with both sides creating opportunities throughout. At the back, **Arabella** delivered an exceptional performance in goal, making a series of important saves to keep Millfield in the match. In attack, **Sarah** proved the difference-maker, scoring twice, reacting quickest to rebounds and showing great composure in front of goal. The girls demonstrated outstanding teamwork, to overturn the result from earlier in the season and emerge as deserved Somerset County Champions. A fantastic achievement for the entire squad and a fitting reward for their hard work and commitment throughout the year. Congratulations to all involve.

U12 Millfield Prep

The U12's had a fantastic morning at the Somerset County Finals. They created some excellent patterns of play down the right, leading to **Lara** displaying some clinical finishing, one goal after the other! With a dynamic finish by **Evelyn** to seal the first win, the game finished 3-0 v Queens.

The second game was against Taunton, who had produced a break away winning goal at the IAPS Finals, even though Millfield had created many scoring chances. However, **Fern, Florence, Thea and Marli** were defensively tight and defused any attempts from Taunton, with **Emily** creating a strong presence in the goal. The interplay between **Evelyn, Isobel and Fola** produced fantastic attacking flow, seeing **Grace and Lara** find the goal in open play. **Isobel** added to the scoreline twice and **Lara** was on target to finish her scoring frenzy, finishing the game a convincing 5-1.

U13 Millfield Prep

Our senior girls have found themselves up against a strong cohort across the county, region and nationally this year. The girls began their campaign against Queens, producing clinical finishing for **Meilin and Flossie**, before **Flossie** struck again to end the game 3-0. This led to their second match against All Hallows, who the girls had lost to at the start of the season, before winning more recently in the MPS Tournament. The girls nervously produced multiple attacking waves, but could not quite get the ball over the line, before All Hallows scored from a counter attack, leading to Millfields first loss 0-1.

With the final game, the pressure was on against Taunton. Fast flowing attacking hockey was played by **Grace, Deina, Bea, Meilin, Arabella and Flossie**, seeing numerous attempts not come into fruition. By half time, the score was still 0-0, so after a few encouraging words and realisation, the girls dug deep. With roughly 5 minutes to go, **Flossie** displayed her superb silky skills to power home a goal. They kept their focus to see the final minutes through, before a final surprise from **Grace**, who supported a final attack, getting on the end of **Bea's** pass, powering herself forwards to smash the final goal in. The whole team triumphantly celebrated their qualification to the West of England Finals and I couldn't be prouder of them.





CROSS COUNTRY

Some of our senior runners raced in the Mendip Championships at the Senior School on Wednesday. This is the start of the partway to hopefully represent Somerset next term. Millfield prep pupils have a busy schedule of sport and we had a good selection of runners who would equally be at home in the pool, on a pitch or in any of the long list of sports we do at the Prep School. We had a good set of results and they will now be racing to try and gain the coveted Somerset vest after Christmas. Congratulations to all the runners with special mentions to **Bella, Bea, Jonah, Charlie and Maverick** who all finished on the podium, with **Bea and Jona**h as Mendip champions.

















SQUASH

Lea G played some excellent squash to become the U15 Irish junior open champion without dropping a game.



Well done to **Freya** who competed in the South Region Classic Challenge Finals and played 7th overall out of 22. She placed 6th on the floor. They present medals for 1-3 and ribbons for 4-6th in her gymnastics.



FOOTBALL

The Girls 12A beat Wadham school 4-2 in their county cup fixture on Tuesday, with a resilient and professional performance. A special mention must go to Fola for a fantastic performance, capped off by a spectacular top-corner finish off the post. Ida, Giovanna, Sofia and Arabella all played up, and were a credit to themselves.





The U12 Boys continued their winning streak with an away trip to Wheatley on Tuesday afternoon. A 2-0 win with goals from Ethan J and Mass N made the 5-hour round-trip worthwhile! Onto the next!



The Year 5 and Year 6 pupils enjoyed two fun and competitive football fixtures against St Vigour and St Adhelm's School. Both games were played in an excellent spirit, with all players showing great enthusiasm, teamwork and determination throughout. The matches provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their skills, gain valuable game experience and represent the school with pride. Well done to everyone involved for their effort, sportsmanship and positive attitude.

RUGBY

The first 7s tournament of the year proved to be a fantastic learning experience for the Year 8 boys. Throughout the day, they developed new skills and gained a greater understanding of a format that is very different from the traditional 13-a-side game.

Outstanding teamwork, determination, and a commitment to their game plan saw the boys finish the day as champions. It was a brilliant day of rugby 7s, with the team showing resilience and adaptability while playing through every season of weather.





SWIMMING

On Saturday, 36 swimmers travelled to Weston-Super-Mare for Round 2 of the National Arena League. The B Team kicked off the day with a series of strong individual and team performances. A special mention goes to Grace Speyers, who stepped in at the last minute to support the team and help a teammate out. After a busy afternoon of racing, the team secured a valiant 4th-place finish. The A Team followed in the evening gala, embracing the fancy dress, pom-poms, and bells, with team spirit on full display throughout. Fantastic skills and performances across the board saw the team finish 1st overall, more than 80 points clear of second place. Well done to everyone involved in both teams for contributing to such a fantastic and vocal team event. Now our attention turns to preparing for the Southwest Final in a couple of weeks' time.

On Monday, 22 swimmers headed to Sherborne Prep to take part in a friendly swimming gala with Perrot Hill. For many of our swimmers, this was their first taste of racing, and they rose brilliantly to the occasion. It was wonderful to see so many smiles, cheering teammates, and growing confidence throughout the gala. A huge congratulations to all who took part. The team showed fantastic sportsmanship and encouraged one another throughout. We are incredibly proud of each and every swimmer and hope this is the first of many enjoyable gala experiences to come.





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PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM MR JORY



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

It has been another busy and exciting week in Pre-Prep! We started the week by wearing odd socks as part of Anti-Bullying Week. This was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate that we are all different and unique. The children have been learning about the importance of speaking up, breaking the silence and showing kindness to others. We discussed how being respectful, inclusive and supportive helps us all to stand together and create a happy school community.

Tadpoles have been busy making beautiful stars in preparation for their special roles in the upcoming Nativity. They have enjoyed getting creative and are already showing great enthusiasm for the festive season. Frogs had an exciting trip to Tesco, where they carefully selected ingredients to make some delicious Christmas goodies. The children were excellent role models for the school and thoroughly enjoyed this real-life learning experience.

Reception have been learning about healthy living and the importance of looking after themselves. They have explored ways to keep their bodies healthy, including making good food choices, caring for their teeth and understanding why exercise and sleep are so important.

Year 1 and Year 2 have been working incredibly hard rehearsing for their Christmas performance next week. We are all looking forward to seeing their hard work come together on stage. Year 2 also represented the school brilliantly in the Autumn Concert, delivering a fantastic brass performance. They demonstrated excellent teamwork, concentration and musical skill, and we are incredibly proud of their achievement. Well done, Year 2! We wish everyone a lovely weekend and look forward to another exciting week ahead.

Yours,
Mike

PRE-PREP

HOUSE TOTALS

HOUSE	ANGLES	DANES	JUTES	SAXONS
OVERALL	547	557	566	537

TADPOLES

FAMILY PHOTOS

Inspired by imaginary play with toy cameras, the Tadpoles have been talking about selfies, and family photos. We took our own selfies, including a class selfie and then decorated frames to put our photos in.






FROGS

TESCO TRIP

We had a lovely time at Tesco's on Thursday morning. Armed with our shopping list and money, we set about finding the ingredients for our Christmas bakes. We chose to either use a trolley or a basket and then had to think about where we would find the ingredients, in the fridge, freezer or bakery areas. If we were unsure we thought about who we could ask and talked about people who were wearing a Tesco top. Once we found the item we were looking for, we ticked that item on our list and moved on. Once we had all the ingredients, we went to pay and were excited to hand our pound coin over. We then returned to Pre-School where we voted to see which Christmas bake we will make first; watch this space.






RECEPTION

ODD SOCKS DAY

Today we celebrated Odd Socks Day and talked about how our differences are what make each of us special.
We discussed how everyone likes different things, looks different, and learns in different ways, and that being different is something to be proud of. Together, we reminded ourselves that at school we always use kind words, kind hands, and kind actions so that everyone feels safe, valued, and happy.




YEAR 1 & 2

HAYNES MOTOR MUSEUM

Year 1 and 2 had an amazing day at Haynes Motor Museum. The children were impeccably behaved and a credit to the school. They asked lots of thoughtful questions and had great fun role-playing a car production line in the workshop session. It was a wonderful way to immerse ourself in our transport topic. Well done everyone.







