



#759
30 SEPTEMBER 2021



MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

It's been wonderful to see the pupils return from our first exeat of the year full of excitement to get back in the classroom and on the sports fields.

This week has seen the inaugural Millfield Prep Boarding Week, promoting insights into boarding through a series of Day in the Life videos and activities whilst sharing information on our extensive boarding provision. It's been a real delight, even for me, to see what the children get up to in their daily lives and the variety in each of their routines. I hope you have been enjoying joining them for a day at Millfield Prep.

We welcomed parents back on campus for our annual Harvest Festival last week. The event raised an incredible £500 for our chosen Glastonbury charity, Bridging the Gap, as well as two land rovers full of donations for their food bank. A heartfelt thank you to you all for supporting us with this event.

I have enjoyed meeting many of you at events and fixtures, and I look forward to opening up things even further as term goes on.

Thank you for your continued support since the return of school. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact your child's group tutor or houseparent.

Best wishes,

Gavin Horgan

SCULPTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's picture of the week, is this superb clay sculpture by **Karina 8AGS**



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KEY FUTURE DATES

The Spring Term starts on
Wednesday 5 January 2022
boarders to return Tuesday 4
January 2022.

SOCIAL MEDIA ALERT

Keep up to date with all of the latest news and events from Millfield Prep School on our social media accounts.

Follow [@mpsfoodtechnology](#) on Instagram to see more photos of the children cooking.



Follow [@mpsdance](#) on Instagram to see what dances the pupils have been doing to celebrate European Day of Languages.



Follow [@MPS_Sport](#) on Twitter to keep up to date on all the sporting news coming from the Prep School.



Follow [@mps drama](#) on Instagram to see what theatre trips the drama pupils are going on.



ROLE MODEL OF THE WEEK ²

This week, Chota has been awarded to **Alexander Leonard**. Alexander was a superb upstander when he witnessed some unkind behaviour in the playground. He stepped in to support a peer and resolved the situation. Well done, Alexander!



DONATIONS APPRECIATED

Rotary
Club of Brue Valley

**Brue Valley Rotary Club
are asking for donations of
unwanted complete
Jigsaw Puzzles.
We support Local and
International Charities**

Please drop your Jigsaw Puzzles into
Reception for collection by one of our
local Rotarians before 15th October.
Many Thanks.

The Rotary Club of Brue Valley Trust Fund is a
registered charity, number 1165514.



The picture to the left shows **Sophie Furlong** and **Toby Wong** of 6MDE, in front of the most recent output from a very able and mathematically inquisitive class.



LANGUAGES

The 26th September, last Sunday, marked the 20th anniversary of the 'European Day of Languages'.

At Millfield Prep, we marked this celebration as a way of reminding pupils of how lucky we are to be part of such a diverse community, surrounded by pupils of all nationalities. Did you know that in our community of over 450 pupils, we have over 70 pupils whose nationality is not British. This allows us to learn so much about other cultures and languages. In GT time this week, pupils have watched a short video to raise awareness of our international community of staff and pupils alike. They contributed by speaking in a foreign language and telling us something about the country they live in. Thankyou everyone! We were also treated to a performance by the newly formed dance company who have been learning a [Flamenco](#) and [Greek dance](#). Their performances were excellent and we enjoyed watching them perform via video. With thanks to Miss Chatwin and Mrs Kinkaid for their hard work with the dance company so far this term. What a great opportunity to see and hear something new!

20 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT EUROPE'S LANGUAGES



THE SILBO LANGUAGE

of La Gomera, Spain, is an ancient whistling language and is still being taught in local schools.

MALTESE

is the only European language in the Afro-Asiatic family (which includes Arabic, Hebrew, Berber, and Hausa).

Aoccdnrig to a rscheearch sudty, it deosn't mttair in waht oredr the ltters in a wrod are; the olny iprmoatnt fatcor is taht the frist and lsat ltteres be at the rghit pclae. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe.

EUSKARA,

the Basque language, is believed to be one of the oldest European languages. Its origins are unknown.



Russian was the first language spoken in **OUTER SPACE.**

LITHUANIAN is very similar to ancient Sanskrit and is the oldest spoken Indo-European language.



It is believed that about **70,000 YEARS AGO** a change happened in the human brain that allowed humans to suddenly develop complex language and thoughts about things that are not immediately visible. This led to the ability to develop ideas, plans, beliefs and bigger concepts and being able to express these with language.



More than half of Europe is **BILINGUAL.**

Languages have around

50,000

words or more.

Typically, native speakers know

15,000 to 20,000

word families but individual speakers normally use only a few hundred.

There are about

225 INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES

in Europe – roughly 3% of the world's total.

αβγδε

You may know much more Greek than you think! You are certainly familiar with alpha, beta, delta, gamma and perhaps π and P. In fact mathematics, astronomy, biology, geography, technology, philosophy, not to mention politics, democracy and many more common terms in Europe's languages all have their origins in Greek!

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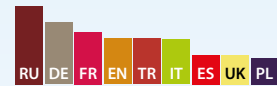
THE MOST DIFFICULT TO PRONOUNCE?

The Czech letter ř is said to be one of the most difficult letters to pronounce in the world – except if you are Czech!



The **EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES** of the Council of Europe is the only treaty in the world which aims to protect and promote traditional regional and national minorities' languages.

The mother tongues spoken by most people in Europe are Russian, German, French, English and Turkish, in that order.



One of the main Serbian orthographic rules is

"WRITE AS YOU SPEAK AND READ AS IT IS WRITTEN".

This means that even proper names coming into Serbian from another language are transcribed according to their pronunciation: for instance, New York is Njujork, and Gérard Depardieu is Žerar Depardje.



More than

200 FAKE LANGUAGES

have been created for literature and cinema (such as Elvish in "Lord of the Rings" and Klingon in "Star Trek").

Recent medical studies have shown that learning a second language MAY delay the onset of **DEMENTIA** by several years.

INDO-GERMANIC LANGUAGES

derive from an ancient language that existed 4000-5000 years ago. Most linguistic ethnologists locate it with human cultures living somewhere in the area of the Caspian Sea. From there it spread to Europe and as far as India.

According to UNESCO, at least

43%

of the estimated 6000 languages spoken in the world are **ENDANGERED.**

KINSHASA,

the capital of the D. R. of the Congo, is the world's second largest French speaking city, after Paris, and before Montreal and Brussels.



20 years European Day of Languages
26 September



WELLBEING

5



For part of the wellbeing curriculum at Millfield, the Year 7 pupils have been participating in classes like Yoga and *Mindfulness walk and talks*. The classes focus on helping the children to look after their own wellbeing and developing pupils' awareness of mental health.



Gentleness

'Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience...' these are the virtues that St Paul was encouraging communities to clothe themselves in when he was writing 2,000 years ago. He didn't include in his list that you need to be strong. However, he did use the word 'gentle'.

St Frances De Sales said, 'Nothing is so strong as gentleness and nothing is so gentle as real strength.'

Gentleness in this context can be seen as 'sensitivity of disposition and kindness of behaviour, founded on strength and prompted by love.'

To help us understand what this strong 'gentleness' looks like in practice, Andy Mort offers

[7 habits of Highly Gentle People.](#)

1. Be Conscious of Your Feelings.

We don't always like to confront how we really feel about things. We are often quick to sugar-coat and gloss over our natural emotional response to people and situations. But the gentle spirit acknowledges the truth of what is being felt.

2. Use the Space between Stimulus and Response.

Gentle people make and embrace the time and space between something happening and when to respond to it. Christians may ask themselves, 'What would Jesus do?'

Stephen Covey talks about this in 'The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People'. Gentle People: aren't reactionary; don't respond immediately; stop and take a metaphorical step back to ground themselves within that moment between the stimulus (something happens TO them) and the response (they decide what they are going to do about it); are strong and full of self-control (they choose if and how to react).

3. Allow Yourself to Care.

Simply acknowledge and allow yourself to care. It is so easy to become disenfranchised and switch off your heart.

4. Take Your Focus Deeper.

Ask yourself why does this situation matter? Why is this person important? Find reasons that ignite a positive motivation.

5. Decide What You are Going to Do.

Rather than reacting, gentle spirits embrace their ability to choose.

6. Follow Up with Anyone Else Affected.

Making human connections is what breeds gentleness.

7. Record Your Experiences.

Gentle people observe themselves, other people, and the situations they experience. Reflecting on these things is an important part of learning and growing. The more that you intentionally acknowledge your responses to things, the more control you will have over them next time.

WELLBEING TIP FOR THE WEEK

Think on points 1 and 2 above. This week, try to consciously use space between a stimulus and your response, consider how you are feeling and what you are going to do or say. Reflect each day on the impact of this.



Prayer

*Heavenly God, grant me a
gentle, strong spirit
Heavenly God, grant me a
gentle, strong voice
Heavenly God, grant me a
gentle, strong presence
Heavenly God, thank you for
your gentle strength
Heavenly God, help me to stay
centred in your gentle spirit
Founded on strength and
prompted by love.*

Amen

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thank you so much for the very generous donations to our local foodbank, 'Bridging the Gap', by our juniors and other pupils. It was the most amazing full Land Rover of boxes and bags. We also raised £500 in donations at the service for the charity, to help them top up with milk and other fresh produce when they deliver to local families in need, and to help them throughout the year when stock is low.

It really showed how we can be beacons of light – Brilliance in action in our community, so a huge thank you.

Rev Kitto



We are still sometimes required to wear a face covering to protect others from COVID-19 whilst at school. Why not make one from scrap fabric that can be washed and used again? We are noticing more disposable masks on campus and these end up in landfill and the oceans, and can cause problems for wildlife. Reusable Millfield masks are available in the school shop.



WARHAMMER CLUB - BUILD, PAINT & PLAY

Warhammer Build, Paint and Play (Mondays 4-5 pm) welcomed two new members to the gang of hobby legends - **Liberty Warman** and **Zachary Clifford**.

Liberty brought in her first models (ghoulish ban-shees - very appropriate as Halloween is not far away). Her latest project is building a squad of Battle Sisters. Zachary is collecting Necrons and Space Marines (these are included with the recently released Imperium magazine partworks). Both pupils have acquired first-rate snipping and gluing skills.

Toby Bingham has assembled and painted a squad of Krieg guardsmen, while **Luc McCrindle** has started a 'green tide' with a squad of Ork Stormboys. **Kevin Wang** and **Josh Lumsdon** stand ready to battle over war-torn worlds in the Ocatrus region of the galaxy!

MILLFIELD PREP BOARDING WEEK



It is Millfield Prep Boarding Week this week so, to celebrate, we have been filming Day in the Life videos of some of our pupils, as well as capturing boarding activities at night. We followed Evsey, Morolayo, Charles, Yasmin and Felix around campus on their daily routine, to see what they get up to at Prep. We also filmed the Hollies House bake-off, and Pom-Poms making at Champion. If you would like to see the videos, click [here](#).



BOARDING LIFE

BEREWALL

After the exeat weekend, the boys were set a challenge to make paper aeroplanes fly along our tennis court. After some scientific research and discussions about gravity, forces of thrust and lift, it was competition on!! Well done to **Ryan** who won, but all the boys had great fun making them.



HOLLIES

Exeat came as a welcome break for many of us over the weekend, with families reuniting across the country. Action resumed on Monday with the busy school schedule and the making of boarding hearts to begin Millfield Prep's Boarding Week. The beginning of the ever-popular Hollies' Bake-Off challenge saw a mega chocolate creation from **Carla G, Carla A, Zara** and **Georgia** on Wednesday – much enjoyed by all! Bedtime reading has been a priority this week to ensure the girls keep up this important habit.



EDGARLEY MANOR

The Edgarley Manor boys showed their support for the environment and small local businesses, by wearing their washable/reusable face masks. They are also pictured watching the Champions League football midweek!



CHESTNUT

The Chestnut boys had another busy Wednesday. The After Supper Football League is now into week four. Some of the boys were still at matches and activities, so the teams were smaller this week, but the matches were no less frantic! The goalies were on top form and they made some miraculous saves! Also, to celebrate the new James Bond film, the boys took their duvets and pillows over to the assembly hall where they watched an old James Bond film on the gigantic screen. They all had big bowls of popcorn so that they could have the full cinema experience.



CHAMPION

With awful weather outside, the Champion girls got creative on Tuesday and made pom-poms for their dorms - always a popular activity. On Wednesday, with a little more spare time than usual, we made the most of the dry weather and headed outside to enjoy our amazing grounds. Always keen for adventure, the girls chose to walk over to the water jump. Later on, still with loads of energy (and after receiving some very exciting selection news) some of the girls headed to the netball courts.



SPORTING NEWS

HORSE RIDING

Harry had some great results at the weekend competing at Teklia. He had two double clears in the 90cm Open and a placing. Well done Harry!

Pictured below: **Larissa** one of our new riders on Louella, **Frankie** on her new horse Splash, and **Aggie** on her new horse Duncan.



Mimi Woodliffe on Natty competed in their first 90-95cm ODE. The picture below is of Mimi and **Myla Coppins**, with both riders finishing on their dressage score with double clears SJ and XC. It was a really strong class, Myla finished 3rd and Mimi 9th so congratulations to you both. Both the riders were in the U18s section, so a great result.



It was a weekend full of sailing for **Noelle** and **Ella** over the exeat break, as they both competed in the RYA British Youth Sailing Regional Junior Championships. Ella competed in the Regatta fleet and placed 3rd SW ladies, out of 33 sailors. Noelle competed in main racing fleet and placed 2nd in the Junior Ladies, out of 66 competitors. The event was held at Weymouth from 25 -26 September and they were joined by double Olympian Saskia Tidey who presided over the prize ceremony.



MULTI-SPORTS TABLE TENNIS

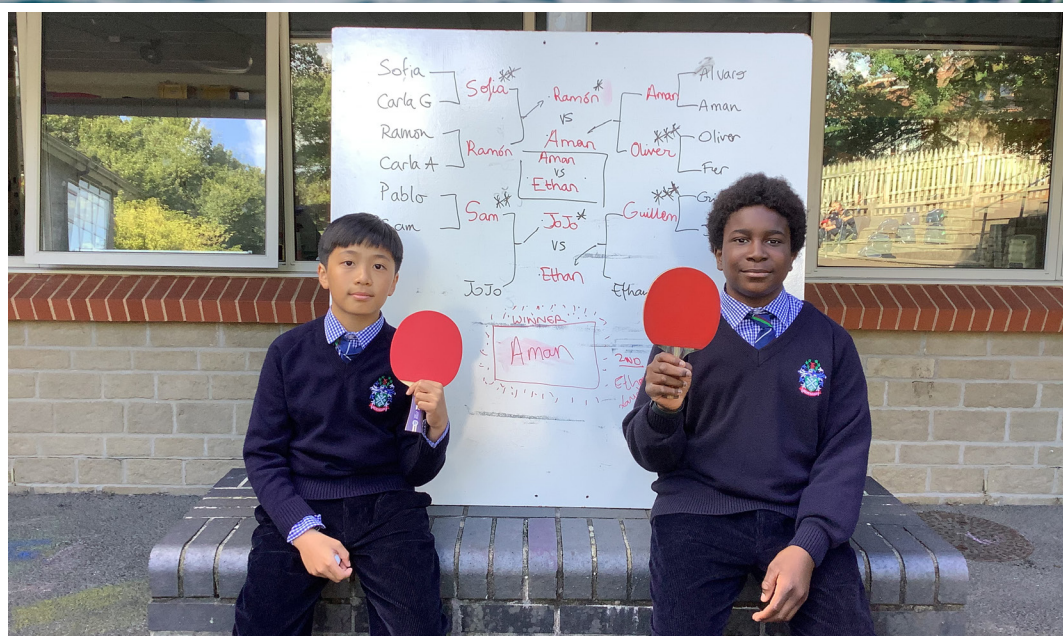
During a sunny afternoon at Millfield Prep, 14 pupils chose to play table tennis for multis.

The results from the competition were...

Winner: **Aman T**

Runner up: **Ethan L**

Well done to all the players involved.





Congratulations to **Ben Bauer**, pictured on the left, who won the Bridgwater Grade 4 U11 Boys Singles Tournament in Wellington over the exeat weekend.

Our Girls team are off to Colston's School in Bristol this Thursday for the county playoffs of the Year 7&8 National Schools competition and our Boys team are due to play Bishop Wordsworth School next Wednesday, so good luck to both teams.

Also, there's some great news, as Millfield Prep's Tennis programme has been given the opportunity to have 'LTA 10U Performance Programme' status, and to be part of the LTA's Player Pathway for 2021/2022.

The next LTA Tournament that we are holding at Prep is on Sat 6th Nov, U10 Mixed Grade 5 singles starting at 9.00am (details on SOCS). A guide of how to sign up for the tournaments will be in next weeks newsletter. Also, a list of tournaments for the older age groups in the area will be out soon.

The LTA are holding a series of webinars for *Parents in Sport* next week, with lots of helpful tips for parents of Tennis players. The details are [here](#).

RUNNING

We have been very lucky the last two weeks to have the summer weather, but this week, we had a taste of winter! Cold winds and horizontal rain greeted our runners. The course also had the challenge of the horse cross country lake. They had the option of running around the lake or going through it. I am sure you can guess what they all did. One of the teachers from a visiting school also asked to run as he wanted to go through the water as well! Thank you to all of the parents who turned out to support in tricky conditions and well done to the athletes for their resilience.





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MILLFIELD
PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



KEY DATES

4th - 5th October
Flu Vaccinations

7th October
Reception and Year 1
Vision Screening

THANK YOU!

Thankyou to everyone who attended our Harvest Festival, it was lovely to have everyone together again. A special well done to all the children who took part with their reading, singing, dancing, storytelling and artwork. They were all brilliant and they continue to amaze us with their confidence to perform. Also, thank you to everyone who kindly donated food parcels for Glastonbury Food Bank Harvest.



Pre-Prep harvest

Pre-prep taught us how to share and I was delighted to be invited to share in the wonderful stories, songs, musical instruments, and pictures from our younger pupils. It was a privilege to be invited to give a blessing at the end of the service and then to collect all your wonderful donations and take them to the food bank. It filled the whole of my estate car and the foodbank were so touched by the wonderful gifts that will be shared with families in need.

A huge thank you,

Rev Kitto



ALIEN SPACESHIPS

Christopher and **Teddy** spotted the moon whilst they were outside playing and all the children were fascinated. It was decided that aliens lived on the moon and rockets zoom up into the sky to reach the moon. Teddy said that it was a half moon, so that meant the aliens were definitely coming! We decided to make spaceships, complete with a visiting alien! The children loved choosing which colour their spaceship would be and added glitter for that extra sparkle. They created their own alien, which tended to have lots of googly eyes! The spaceships looked amazing.

We shared the story *whatever next*, which opened up a discussion about what foods we would like to eat if we had a picnic on the moon. We put on our space helmet (just like baby bear) and thought about what we'd like to eat. We had some fantastic ideas and it made us feel rather hungry! Perhaps we need to have a picnic on the moon? Watch this space...



TADPOLES

PLAYING AND PAINTING

The tadpoles have been really busy this week talking about all of the different farm animals. This led to making muddy pigs in sensory bags, which were filled with squishy shaving foam & mud-coloured paint & helping the pigs to roll around in the mud! It was brilliant fun and gave us lots of different describing words as well, the tadpoles especially liked putting on the curly tails!



JAFFA CAKE MOONS

We have noticed that the moon has still been out during the day, so the children investigated why this is happening and came back with some lovely ideas. Yesterday, one of the children noticed that it was a half moon. Mrs Smith and Mrs Salt then remembered an advert they used to watch on the telly where the teacher selfishly taught the children about a full moon, half moon and total eclipse, by eating Jaffa cakes and not sharing them with the class. Mrs Smith and Mrs Salt role-played this and as the children rightly pointed out, Mrs Smith and Mrs Salt are kind teachers, so they let the children have a go as well.



EYFS

EMOTION COACHING ASSEMBLIES

The EYFS children have been taking part in our emotion coaching assemblies. Today, we have been recapping our emotions. We then talked about our own personal spaces and pretended that we were each in a bubble. We talked about what might burst our bubble and how we can step into someone's bubble without busting it. The children were brilliant at this, so maybe you could ask them about it at home!



HOLIDAYS & CREATION

Year 1 have been thinking all about holidays this week. The children have been enjoying role-playing in our travel agents and looking at maps to find different holiday destinations around the world. The children have been bringing in pictures of holidays that they have been on, and telling us all about them and how they travelled to get there. Some children used construction to show what transport they use to travel to their holiday destination. Finn built a fabulous aeroplane! In RE, we have started learning about creation. The children were given an opportunity to create something using junk modelling materials. It was amazing to see their imaginations at work and some brilliant creations!



YEAR 2

COMIC STRIPS & COMMUNICATION

Year 2 have been working on their communication skills this week. They created a comic strip of a previous holiday and explained it to their partner. They then came up with some great questions to ask their partners that would give them more information. Asking the right kind of question to get the most amount of information is quite a skill! Then, using maps and Google Earth, the children planned a holiday with their talking partners to a country of their choice. Great researching and discussing Year 2!



MINIS NEWS



LOVING AUTUMN

Last week, the Minis kick-started autumn in the forest school exploring our mini allotment and collecting firewood in their wheelbarrows. We explored autumn colours by making suncatchers and had great fun racing conkers. Lots of concentration was needed to thread our autumn necklaces and the mummies definitely looked very autumnal wearing them! We ended our session cooking sizzling sausages over the fire -what a yummy snack!

