



#764
18 NOVEMBER 2021



MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

It was brilliant to see so many children wearing odd socks on Monday in support of Anti-Bullying week and not just because they got dressed in a hurry to get to school on time! I have been hearing lots of the children talking about being kind, how to help each other and expressing what makes them different. We are all unique and it is fantastic to champion and celebrate that.

It has been a week packed with awards and competition wins. **Asta M** has been accepted into the GB National Youth Girls' Choir which is an outstanding achievement, the U11 Table Tennis team won the Somerset Schools Table tennis association Team Championships, the U11 Hockey Girls are county champions and **Brychan J** won first prize in the News and Views literacy competition, with his piece being published in their magazine and website, to name a few.

Tomorrow is the Pre-Prep Danceathon for Children In Need which we are all looking forward to. Enjoy the exeat weekend and I hope the children will have some well-deserved down time and a break in rhythm.

Best wishes,

Gavin

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the week is this exceptional painting by **Zara B 8AGS**.



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PARENT NOTICES

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Exeat Information

The school will shut at 3.45pm tomorrow (Friday 19th Nov).
There will be no clubs, activities, games, late stay etc.

Traffic is likely to be high on campus so please try to arrive at your allocated time slots for year groups or it will block the campus. Siblings are able to be picked up together at earlier time slots. Please make sure your children are aware of times and venues to avoid any confusion.

If parents are able to pick up children in Years 3 & 4 at 3.30pm then that would be most appreciated to ease congestion otherwise their pick up is 3.45pm Martins lane.

Year 5 3:45pm Martin's Lane

Year 6 4:00pm Martin's Lane

Year 7 3:45pm Reception car park

Year 8 4:00pm Reception car park



MUFTI DAY

Friday 19 November is Children in Need Day and we will be joining in with the rest of the country to raise money for good causes.

You can wear mufti clothes to school! Please bring a donation of £2 to go towards the charity. This year's theme is 'Together, We Can' - It will be just mufti day, no best baking again due to covid.

PRE-PREP DANCEATHON

Millfield Pre-Prep are going to be undertaking a Strictly-inspired Danceathon on Friday 19 November from 8.30-3pm for BBC Children in Need.

We will be posting regular updates on Millfield Prep's social media channels throughout the day, so you can watch the children 'Keeeeeep Dancing'!

If you would like to donate, please click [here](#).

Thank you so much in advance for your continued support.



Carol Service

Parents are invited to the Carol Service on the 10th December from 12.30pm-1.30pm. 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 approximately 1.30pm. Children need to be collected from their group tutors at the end of the service. Any children not collected will be brought back to school and should be collected from Reception or their boarding house by 2pm.

Formal Uniform

Pupils will be expected to be wearing formal uniform for the Spring Term 2022.

Masks

Masks are still being worn by Year 7 and 8 in the dining hall and on transport, so please can pupils remember to bring in a mask.

Spring Term

Spring Term will start on Wednesday 5 January, with boarders returning on Tuesday 4 January.

ROLE MODELS OF THE WEEK

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This week, Oreo and Chota are going home with **Hester J** and **Lucas F**. Hester completed some superb independent research about her great-grandfather, who fought in World War II, following on from a book they have been reading in English about World War II. Lucas has been awarded lots of merits for acts of kindness this term and will always make sure he is doing the right thing and is an upstander when he needs to be. Well done to both!



EAL STUDENT OF THE WEEK

This week in the EAL classes, Ms Dale, Mrs Eveson and Miss Close have had a tough time deciding who to award the EAL student of the week to. As the weeks go by, we have noticed how all the pupils are becoming more independent and very motivated to improve their languages skills. This week we are awarding **Yuna** and **Javi**, two Year 7 pupils who have challenged themselves to produce great work. Yuna impressed Mrs Eveson with her determination in class and her attention to detail, while Javi stunned a group of Year 8 students with his public speaking skills and confidence. Well done both of you!



HISTORY

Townsend Warner History Prize 2022

This year, the History Department are working with five Year 8 pupils as they enter the academic competition for 2022. This is the third year we have taken part in the Townsend-Warner History Prize. An annual event for IAPS schools, this gives our students the opportunity to represent the school in History. The first round of the Townsend Warner History Prize takes place in January and well done to all the students who have attended the early morning club to prepare for the competition.

In the past, we have reached the final round and we hope that this year's group will go on to emulate past students by reaching the second round in February. They will be completing a series of knowledge tests on the period 450CE to the present day. The Prep Plus Club on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings before school gives our students the chance to practise past papers, cover lesser known topics and revise together. We wish all our Millfield Prep students the very best in this national IAPS Academic Competition.

Below is the certificate the winner is awarded and pupil **Mila B** reading her new textbook in preparation.



MUSIC

Huge congratulations to **Asta M** who has been accepted into the GB National Youth Girls' Choir. This prestigious choir performs inspiring concerts around the UK in venues like the Royal Albert Hall, Birmingham Town Hall & Sage Gateshead, and Asta will have the opportunity to learn everything from traditional choral music through to brand new works. We are looking forward to hearing about her exciting musical experiences with the choir and hopefully also hear her perform with them very soon. Well done Asta!



CHESS CLUB

5

Chess club is becoming increasingly popular each week. Pictured below is an intense moment during one of this weeks' matches.



GEOGRAPHY PUZZLE

As part of multi-activities, pupils had fun at solving some geography puzzles.



WARHAMMER CLUB

Warhammer Club membership has grown over this term. We now have nine members who all have a fantastic level of independence in the hobby. As you can see in the photos it's all going on ... building, painting and playing. The monstrous Orks are a terrifying mob facing off against the Imperiums finest warriors, the Space Marines. Only the dice can determine the victor although some of the commanders will tell you it's down to their tactical acumen!



CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Teamwork

As we are about to have a short break this exeat to recharge the batteries ahead of the start of Advent (Sunday 28th November) when we return into the run up to the end of term this is a time when we need to look after ourselves and each other. Teamwork and care will be so important as we seek not just to survive to the end of term but to enjoy it.

The Teacher (Qoheleth) writing wisdom as the book of Ecclesiastes in the Bible reminds us how important teamwork is: 'Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. But if someone is alone and falls, it's just too bad, because there is no one to help him. If it is cold, two can sleep together and stay warm, but how can you keep warm by yourself two people can resist an attack that would defeat one person alone. A rope made of three cords is hard to break.'

In the Bible verse above the comment about the rope of three cords, after talking about two being better than one, is a reference to the value of a third cord, in this context God, or more broadly the importance of faith as a support. So, even in times when you may feel alone, faith means that there is always a helper at hand.

Loving God

Thank you for the care and support of those around me.

Thank you that I too may offer care and support

Help me to notice when others may be struggling and to offer a helping hand

Help me to notice when I am struggling and would welcome a helping hand

Thank you for the care and support I can find through faith in you

Thank you that you notice me, whether I am struggling or whether I am supporting

You are always with me

Amen

WELLBEING TIP FOR THE WEEK

Notice more about you and be honest with yourself. Notice when you are feeling good and able to support others, what factors have helped you. Notice when you are struggling and give yourself permission to share that, to seek support even if you aren't sure what that might look or feel like. Build in some time each day, amidst the busy-ness, to notice yourself and respond when you can – take a loo break, drink water, breathe outside...

CONFIRMATION

On Saturday at Wells Cathedral, **Victoria** and **Tiffany** were confirmed. They did their preparation before lockdown and have had to wait this long to be able to go to a service! It was a wonderful afternoon in the Cathedral with over 50 other candidates from around the diocese. Congratulations!

If your son or daughter would like to join us in preparing for our next service of confirmation, please do read the letter [here](#) within the parent portal. And or get in touch with Revd Kitto via email: Kitto.m@millfieldprep.com

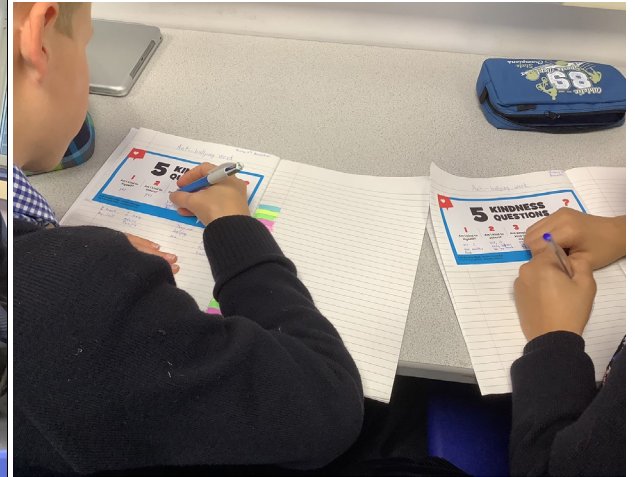


As it is the season of Remembrance - Last Saturday in tutor time we had an opportunity to come and light a candle in memory of someone with Revd Kitto outside. It was a quiet, reflective and moving time to remember loved ones.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

The theme for Anti-bullying week was 'One Kind Word', because one kind word can make all the difference. At Millfield Prep, the pupils have been learning about the importance of being kind to one another through various activities. The pupils at Millfield Pre-Prep were also speaking about the importance of being kind in the most recent episode of Playground Politics, that you can watch [here](#).



ODD SOCKS DAY

For Anti-Bullying Week, Millfield Prep School participated in Odd Socks Day, where the pupils were able to wear odd socks into school. The day raised awareness for the importance of being kind to one another and how there is nothing wrong about being different. Below are some of the odd socks worn by pupils.



Congratulations to **Brychan J**, who claimed first prize in the News and Views literacy competition. His piece has been published in their magazine and on their website.

Trek to the secret bay - By Brychan J

I slammed the door of the car shut. Straight away I was met by the honking of horns belonging to the cars that were trying to bombard their way in to the small grassy car park covered by rough stone slabs. My family and I made our way past the oncoming cars, and on to the cobble pavement overlooking Dale harbour. As we walked past the surf school and towards the pizzeria I noticed that the beach was mostly covered by pebbles and shingle. Not what we're looking for. The pavement ends, leading me onto a road, which winds up past a little cottage and then to a signpost, beckoning us. We take a left at a lone bench next to some steps, that had been worn down by time and hundreds of other footsteps like our own. Once me and my family overcame the challenge of scaling the steps, we jump over a stile and find ourselves in a field full of wheat, ready to be harvested. We exit the field, only to be met by another, belonging to the same farm, but this field bare, recently harvested, leaving us to romp through the dust and dry mud. At the bottom of the field we find a wooded area. Through a kissing gate and into the trees, relieved by the cool shade it provides. We walk past overgrown bushes for a number of minutes, only to find out that we were going the wrong way BACK! So we pick our way along the headland and come to a path past a beautiful house, with a small lake beside it. In the lake is a solitary rowing boat, next to a lonely island, that has a singular low hanging tree on it. Turning right into a shaded lane which, to my dismay, ends too soon. We turn left on to an open track with the scorching sun beating down on us. My brother and I start to grumble, 'Nearly there!' says Dad, he always says that! The lane stretches on and we trudge on, until we come to a gate with lots of cars parked next to it. This annoys all but my dad- we could've driven instead of walking. We wouldn't've got here a lot quicker. But we'd have missed the adventure, the sights, the experience. So, through the gate, down the slope. As we near the bottom we catch our first sight of the secret beach, with this motivation we carry on walking, a spring now in our step, and come to a path covered with small overhanging trees. On, through the bush and bracken, catching tempting glimpses of the beach every so often. Further down we go, beneath our feet the soil turns to sand. Coming out of the scrub we see the sea. The dog runs down to the waters edge and jumps in, so we follow her down the soft, golden sand, spilling our things as we go. Before splashing out to join her in the clear, warm waters of the bay. One adventure done, another beginning.



DT

Year 3 are making fine progress with their pirate boats. This week they have been learning about using the pillar drill to help attach their masts. Lots of new tools and machines have been explored over the last few weeks, with lots of great questions from the pupils. Well done to all, and roll on the pirate battle in a few weeks time!



FOOD TECH

9

Year 8 have been thrilled to learn about enriched doughs whilst making their Chelsea buns this week. Understanding the kneading and proving methods was key for them to get lovely, well rounded buns. Lots of happy pupils!



BOARDING LIFE

EDGARLEY MANOR

The boys had a great day on Sunday, starting with the Chartwells catering van for breakfast before travelling to Cardiff for the Wales v Fiji Rugby international game. Some of the boys were unable to attend due to representing the school at the South West Schools biathlon event, where they won silver medals.



HOLLIES

Anti-Bullying Week kicked off with the wearing of odd socks. The girls then completed an activity in house called One Kind Word. Several of our girls travelled to the Senior School on Wednesday to play football on the pitches. The weekend was just as active with the girls making slides out of mats and playing rounders. The tempo then changed with a relaxing film night and a lazy Sunday morning, with the much-enjoyed breakfast van before the Remembrance Day ceremony. Thank you to **Carlota** and **Zara** for representing the house at the Boarders' Council meeting this week and happy birthday to **Eliada** – another teenager!



BEREWALL

This week the parents had kindly sent in all of our boys baby photos for a guess the baby competition. The boys had fun trying to match one another to the face. The staff loved looking through their photographs too and well done to **Arhaan** and **Ayaan** for winning with the most correct answers. But the real winners were Children in Need, the boys have all donated £1 from their pocket money to the charity. We wish our boys a well deserved break over this weekend.



CHESTNUT

The annual Chestnut Curling Championships took place this week under the floodlights. Sadly there was no ice again this year so the boys had to resort to skateboards as their skimming stones! Their teammates had to judge how hard to push them so that they would end up in the scoring zones. The boys then tucked into some delicious chicken noodle soup to warm up after their "winter" sports. The boys in Years 5 and 6 have been having a great game of Millfield Monopoly this week. They definitely have careers ahead of them as entrepreneurs and 'wheeler dealers' as they have created a new set of rules which means they all seem to have lots of money and hotels!



CHAMPION

After a busy week some of the Champion girls chose a pamper activity over the weekend. As you can see, **Orla** and **Sarah** took their face mask preparation very seriously! On Wednesday, it was time for some games that didn't involve screens - so we introduced them to Consequences that several had never played. They were quick to get into the game and there were some hilarious results!



SPORTING NEWS

FOOTBALL

The U12's have progressed onto Round 3 of the ESFA Cup after defeating Wydean School 4-2 last week. They played attractive football from start to end, demonstrating good team work skills. They face Bridgnorth Endowed School in the next round.

The girls travelled to Kingweston for a training day with players for the Millfield Girls First Team. The girls thoroughly enjoyed their training and meeting the Senior School girls. Following their training, they watched the Millfield Boys First Team in their match against Haberdashers' School. Keep up the good work girls!



TABLE TENNIS

Congratulations to the U11 Table Tennis Team who won the Somerset Schools Table Tennis Association Team Championships. The U13 team also qualified for the South West Championships in January. The boys played exciting matches and had a great time at Taunton. Well done to both teams!



TENNIS

Last weekend **Toby W** reached the semi-finals of the U11 Grade 4 in Portsmouth. We would also like to wish all of our players who are competing over the exeat weekend the very best of luck.

We have the following LTA sanctioned Tournaments taking place at Prep next term. Entry is online via the LTA competitions website and details are on SOCS.

Sat 8 Jan, U8 and U10 at 9am and U9 at 10.30am

Sat 15 Jan, U8 and U10 at 9am

Sat 29 Jan, U12 girls singles at 9am

Sat 5 Feb, U10 singles 9am

Sun 6 Feb, U9 at 9am and U11 at 11am

Sat 5 March, U8 at 9am

Sat 19 March, U8 and u9 at 9am

The golfers have had a busy start to the academic year with regular visits to Wedmore Golf Club. All the pupils are working hard on improving their techniques during squad and private lessons. There have been some notable successes by the golfers with **Alexander L** winning a regional qualifier. He will now play in the finals of a national competition at St Andrews in August. **Jack I** has made an excellent start reducing his handicap and picking up a couple of trophies with a particular impressive one as seen in the photo below! **Toby M** has also been picking up some prizes after winning multiple events. **Carlota M**, **Ffion L**, **John A** and **Joss M** have all been playing very well and have reduced their handicap over the last couple of months. The focus now turns to continuing to improve their ability in readiness for the competitions starting in the late spring and summer terms.



CRICKET

We would like to congratulate the following pupils on their selection in the county winter cricket squads. It shows testament to the cricket program here at Prep and the hard work the pupils put in. Well done to them all.

Somerset -

13s- **Brychan J, Hamish H, Leo M**

12s- **Hugo B, Connor P**

11s- **Joel G, Toby W, Seb G, Louis W, James P, Jamie G, Tate S-D**

10s - **Bailey B, Wills J, Micah G, Harry G, Barnaby G**

East Wales 12s- **Rupert J**

Wiltshire 12s - **Edward W**

Shadow Development 13s- **Seth C**

Somerset Girls -

13s- **Alicia P, Mila B, Yasmin G**

12s - **Grace F, Emma C, Izzy G-J, Erin D, Gracie T**

Berkshire 13s - **Zara B**

Surrey 11s- **Arabella G**

SAILING

Noelle D, who is a member of the Royal Yachting Association, has been selected for the Regional Training Group – South West Optimist Winter 2021/22. Noelle's selection for this RYA activity recognises her potential to progress within British Youth Sailing, with the aim of progressing to UK Youth Squads. Noelle has been selected on the basis of performance and commitment to a programme of training and competition over a period. As Noelle progresses through the performance pathway, the expectations and necessary commitment required to achieve desired performance objectives increases significantly. Indeed, training weekends are generally intense and involve a range of activity including time on the water, fitness training, classroom-based theory sessions and work with specialist support staff and coaches.

The U11 Hockey Girls team are county champions! A fitting way to end a brilliant season and well done for working so hard! A great team effort! Thanks to Mrs Bodman for organising the tournament and Miss Workman for umpiring.



There has also been some excellent matches this week. All of the teams have been playing the game in a fantastic spirit. They have worked hard in their training and this is paying off in their matches. The photos are from some of the games against All Hallows' and Kings Hall.



The rugby this term has been great with so many pupils being involved. They have enjoyed festivals, triangular matches, single fixtures, some mixed ability rugby, and some live-streamed rugby. The variety allows pupils to experience new and exciting challenges on the pitch. The most impressive thing to see from all of the rugby going on is that pupils have really embraced the ethos of solving problems on the pitch. Staff have tried to facilitate environments, whether it be in the games sessions or on fixture day, where pupils are challenged and need to solve the problem in front of them. A superb skill to develop both on the rugby pitch, in the other sports they play and in the classroom.





SWIMMING

Some of our Millfield Prep swimmers took part in round two of the National Arena League on Saturday in Keynsham. It was a speedy afternoon racing with all swimmers performing close to their personal best times, Millfield won the round with a whopping 231 points! Well done to **Vivienne, Tumi, Keeleigh, Charlie, Mila, John, Dorian** and **Kevin** for taking part and representing our school with pride. Fingers crossed we make it into the final round in December.



BIATHLON

The Prep pupils all did exceptionally well in the South West Schools biathlon event. Many have now qualified individually and as a team. The remaining athletes will go on to a ranking list once all regional competitions have been completed and picked from there. Please click this [link](#) to see the South West biathlon results, they are at the bottom of the page.



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NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

Another fun packed week in Pre-Prep has flown by, with the children in EYFS and Minis learning, singing and acting nursery rhymes. Key Stage 1 have been busy planning and preparing for their open afternoon, where parents are invited to come and see the classroom and share their children's learning with them.

We started the week wearing odd socks in support of Anti-Bullying Week, what an amazing sight and so many odd socks. We hope they found their friend again when they got home. In assembly, we used kind words to build a wall, where each brick represented a kind word. We learnt that it takes lots of kind words to build someone's confidence and to make someone feel happy but one unkind word brings the whole wall back down very quickly. I wonder how many kind words and actions have been shared this week?

The corridors and classrooms have also been full of carols and nativity songs as we start to build up to the end of term productions and carol services. We are hopeful that you will be able to watch these live this year. As we continue to practise and perfect the acting, singing and dancing all we ask is that you put the dates and times in your diary.

We will be finishing the week wearing mufti, sparkles or superhero outfits and dancing all day in support of Children in Need. Thank you in advance for all your support and kind donations via the Just Giving link and £2 to put in the Pudsey pot at drop off. There are going to be some tired Pre-Prep children by the end of the day!

Best wishes,

PRE-PREP DANCEATHON

Tomorrow, Millfield Pre-Prep pupils and staff will be taking part in a Danceathon to raise money for BBC Children in Need! They will be taking it in turns to dance throughout the day from 8:30-3pm! Any donation is much appreciated. Click [here](#) to donate.



KEY DATES

Friday 19 November

EXEAT Weekend

School finishes at 3:15. No clubs, creche or late club.

Christmas production dates for the diary - We are currently planning on inviting parents to our Christmas Productions and hope you will be able to join us. We will be allowing two parents per family to one of the shows.

Wednesday 8 December

KS1 – 9am
EYFS – 10:30am

Thursday 9 December

EYFS – 10am
KS1 – 2pm

PRE-SCHOOL TADPOLES

18

After discussing our favourite sandwich fillings at Thursdays snack time, the Tadpoles decided they would like to make their own sandwiches and have a picnic next week. Cheese and ham were the most popular choices! After washing their hands, the Tadpoles busily spread the butter, chose their fillings and sliced their own sandwiches. The sandwiches were enjoyed alongside some mini cheddars and fruit during their very own Tadpole picnic.



PRE-SCHOOL FROGS

Volcanoes have sparked the Frogs interest over the past two weeks. They have been building them and making them erupt. Mrs Wickham demonstrated what happens when a volcano erupts which was very exciting! The children played the fun and popular game of 'floor is lava' where they have to jump or crawl from obstacle to obstacle and avoid falling in the hot lava!



Pre-School have also been celebrating National Nursery Rhyme Week. We have been singing old and new rhymes and painting pictures of our favourite nursery rhyme character. The children especially enjoyed learning the rhyme, "round and round the garden like a teddy bear".



NURSERY RHYME WEEK

In celebration of National Nursery Rhyme Week, the Reception class came in this morning to find a crime scene in their classroom. The children looked for clues to see what and how this could have happened. They eventually worked out that it was Humpty Dumpty who had fallen off his wall. The next task was to work out how he had fallen. There was lots of great answers including the big bad wolf had pushed him off! The children wrote their answer on a brick and stuck it to the wall. Afterwards they made their own Humpty Dumpty and stuck them back together again with glue, sticky tape and plasters.



PLAYGROUND POLITICS

Watch our most recent episode of Playground Politics, the show where we pass over the news to the Millfield Pre-Prep pupils, to get their opinion on topical issues. This week, Teddy and Grace spoke about Anti-Bullying week and the importance of being nice to each other. To watch the video, click [here](#).



'WE THE CURIOUS'

Year 1 and 2 had a brilliant school trip to 'We The Curious' in Bristol to support our learning about space. The pupils took part in a hands-on workshop where they worked in teams to build and launch a rocket. We learnt about what it would be like without gravity and what life is like on the international space station. The pupils also got the opportunity to explore all of the different exhibits. It was a fantastic day and the pupils were an absolute credit to us.



MINIS NEWS



SPACE AND FIREWORKS

The Minis had great fun turning into astronauts and exploring the space activities set up around the hall. They phoned home from their rocket and played with the moon dough, moulding shapes and making tracks. The Minis used their printing skills to make great firework paintings and they also enjoyed walking, running and riding around the Apple Tree Green.

