



#760
7 OCTOBER 2021



MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

It's been another action-packed week at Millfield Prep School and it's been a real pleasure to meet more of you.

Today is National Poetry Day and I am extremely impressed by the work produced by our pupil cohort. They never cease to amaze me with their creations in all subjects, whether that's a piece in literacy, the arts or design technology.

I was delighted to be invited to join Millfield Pre-Prep's picnic on the moon. The hall was transformed into an incredible moon landscape and it was a remarkable spectacle, thank you to everyone who was involved in that. The children (and I!) thoroughly enjoyed it and hope to be returning soon.

We are welcoming families interested in sending their children to Millfield Prep this weekend for our first on-campus Open Morning since the pandemic. Interest in the school is at a record high and your continued support is much appreciated.

Have a great week.

Best wishes,

Gavin Horgan

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is this sensitively drawn oil pastel piece, by **Elis D** in 8CLC.



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DIARY

FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER

Music and Art concert *The Eye Meets the Ear* - 06:00 - 07:30

MONDAY 11 OCTOBER

Year 8 Online Parent/Teacher Meeting
18:00 - 21:00

Year 5 Roman Workshop - 09:00 - 15:45 (Please can children wear games kit for this)

TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER

Year 8 Online Parent/Teacher Meeting
18:00 - 21:00

PARENT NOTICES

Snack, breakfast, lunch and supper menus can all be found on the Parent Portal under Information (Prep School)

Year 7 parents have the opportunity to Meet the Head in the Shayler Pavilion tomorrow between 08:00 - 09:30.

We are all very excited that House Song will be able to take place next Friday at 11am. We will be filming it with a relay to two locations where parents will be able to watch the event live. It will also be available online and we will send out the link next week.

Parents of Junior Prep children should go to the Shayler Pavilion and parents of Years 7 & 8 should go to the Assembly Hall.

At 12pm when the event finishes, if you are on site, please walk to the normal pickup locations - Years 3-6 on Martins Lane and Years 7&8 in the sports hall carpark.

ROLE MODELS OF THE WEEK

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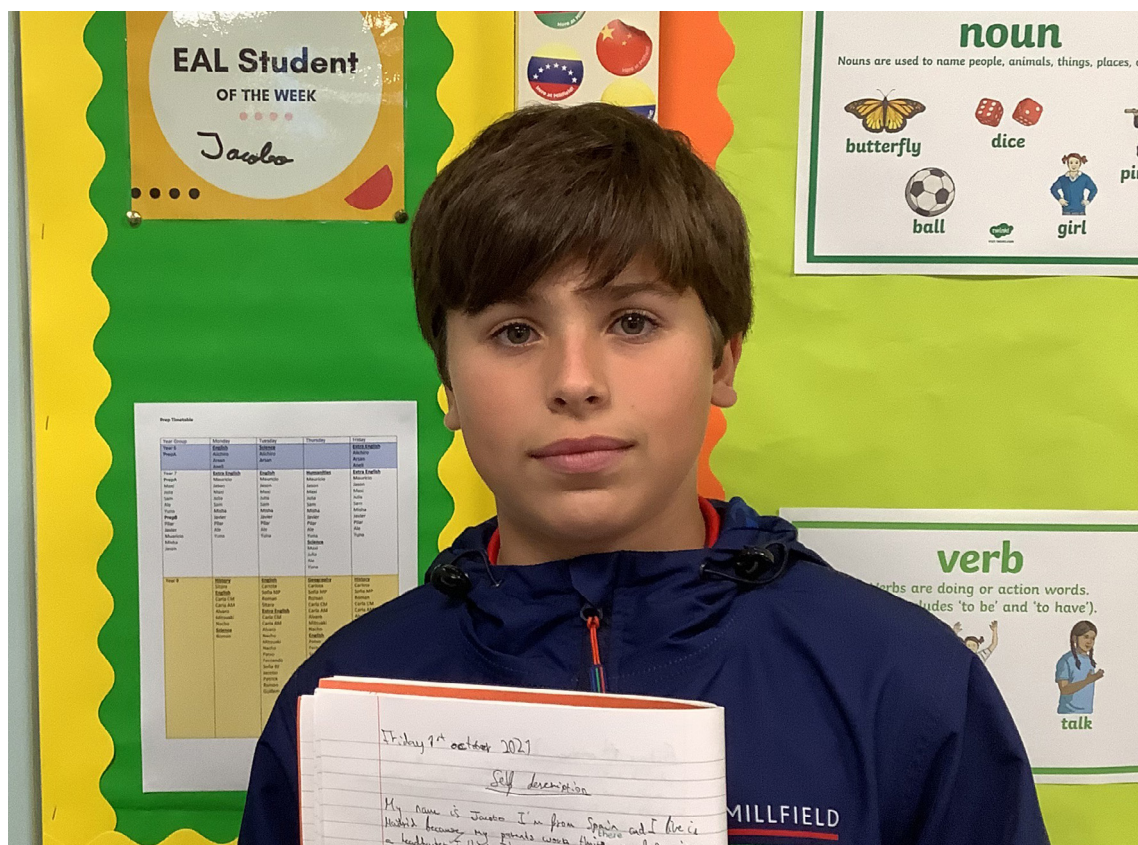
This week, Milffy, Oreo and Chota have been awarded to the following girls. **Millie E-N** and **Lowri S-M** have shown some superb acts of kindness over the week, helping friends in need. **Elsie C** has been working hard in science and showing a great work ethic. Well done, girls!



EAL STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Having given the students time to settle into a new routine, school, language and country, the EAL department is ready to celebrate students' achievements, by selecting an EAL student of the week. While there is no written rule on how to be an EAL student of the week, we select pupils who have worked hard in lessons, completed prep tasks consistently and well, and who chose to communicate in English inside and outside of class.

The first EAL student of the week is **Jacobo** from 8AYC, who wrote a brilliant description of himself which included: "My eyes are quite a confusing colour and no one exactly knows what my eye colour is. It is like a mix of green, hazel and grey". He has also shown great commitment to his learning and a desire to improve. Well done Jacobo!

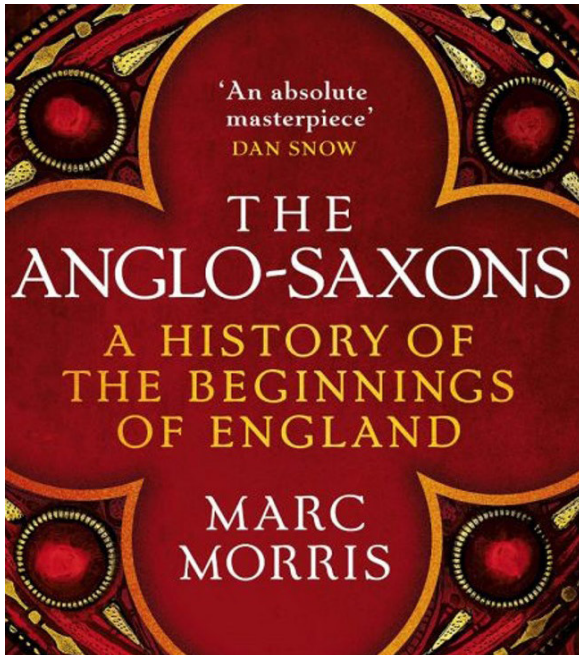


HISTORY

Year 7 begin the Anglo Saxons

In History, Year 7s have begun their first enquiry on Anglo Saxon England, with an emphasis on the history of their houses. This is a riveting period that explains the emergence of England as a nation. Since the first Angles arrived in Kent, the next 600 years witnessed the rise and fall of kingdoms, invasion from the Viking Danes, infighting, the birth of language, culture, and the church. Year 7s have also been discovering the local history dimension with a lesson on King Alfred and Glastonbury. They learnt that King Alfred took refuge in and around the Mendips and defended England from almost constant threat of invasion. Great works by Bede and the Anglo Saxon Chronicles have helped us to illuminate a period known for its darkness and texts such as Marc Morris's *The Anglo Saxons* are used in lessons to help us develop and enrich their understanding. We have also looked at the discovery of the Sutton Hoo burial in 1939, which speak to us of a past worth teaching.

There has been a lively debate and real interest in the period, particularly after we have added a House dimension to the enquiry. Pupils have been asked to research the history of their house; Jutes, Angles, Saxons and Danes. They will give a snapshot of the major points worth considering about how they migrated to the British Isles and shaped the next 600 years after the Romans left. We look forward to seeing the results and to sharing the research with the Heads of House at the end of next week.



What can Marc Morris tell us about Anglo Saxon England?

**Jutes, Danes, Angles, Saxons.
What really happened after the Romans left?**

ENGLISH - NATIONAL POETRY DAY

The Seasons - By **Jacob G** in 7SP.

Hot summer is here
The ice lollies are open
The chilled pools are out.

Children jumping in
Screaming and shouting with joy
Happy with your friends.

The pools go away
And the scarf and gloves go on
Walks in the forest.

The crunching of leaves
Yellow and orange and brown,
The fire crackling.

Air from your breath
The numbing of your fingers,
From the cold snowflakes.

The festive season
A time for everybody
Santa is coming.

A new life is here.
The birth of lambs and flowers.
Birds chirping, happy.

The resurrection.
Our lord Jesus is alive
Time for chocolate eggs.

My Martian Poem - By **Noelle D**

Irons are multicoloured mean machines
Creased? No problem, get me
Deathly heated roller with a smooth
bottom
Mist screaming with happiness to be out
of the killer
But always done in a rush
The age slowly disappears from every
stroke
Finally smooth, silky and straight
What a life saver!
Soggy, sweaty, smelly
Comes in all shapes and sizes
Unique curvy shape like a squiggly vase
When taking the protector off, a stink
bomb is set off
After being on, it goes into the torture
machine
"Save me"! They scream in terror
Speedy blades going at nine hundred
miles per hour
But once used once, it will never be the
same
Dogs are weird fury creatures
Come in all shapes, colour and sizes
The scream of happiness to see humans
And lie awake in pain when they leave
Can never stop wiggling and have zero
coordination
All they really want is to eat treats and be
loved.

Match Day - By **Seth C**

I don't usually get nervous watching Liverpool,
But Wolves away is a different story:
Will we get the three points back to the pool,
Or will Wolves get the glory.

Liverpool have the winning streak,
But Wolves are mid table.
They need to be at their peak,
Let's see if there able.

Liverpool are amazing under Klopp,
Mo Salah is on fire.
But without the Kop,
Will he be what they require?

The whistle blows and the game starts,
Liverpool begin with a goal.
Salah going through the defence like a dart,
Liverpool take control.

Goal after goal goes in,
Wolves are struggling.
They feel like an American bin.
Liverpool are troubling.

The game finishes,
Liverpool win five-nil.
Wolves reputation diminishes ,
And Liverpool are winning still.

This all seems surreal,
Clearly Liverpool are the 'real deal'.

In this very moving poem, Brychan demonstrates the importance of poetry in our lives by exploring a challenge in life and, having learned to overcome it, sharing advice with others who might be going through the same. The big things were little, and the little things were big.

But What If? - By Brychan J

But what if I'm different?
But what if no one likes me?
But what if I become lonely?
But what if I don't win?
But what if it's not right?
But what if I get it wrong?
But what if 9/10 isn't good enough?
But what if I don't play well?

Some of your worries aren't as big as they seem,
Like balloons inflated by your mind.
Worries can bring us to our knees,
Toy with our minds,
Pull our strings,
Control us like puppets.

But what if being different is good?
But what if people do like me?
But what if I don't become lonely?
But what if losing is fine?
But what if it's ok to make mistakes?
But what if 9/10 is good?
But what if I play better next time?

You control your worries,
Don't let them control you,
You are bigger than them.
Rise above,
You want happiness,
Worries do not.
Worries are small things with big shadows,
But it's up to you to change that shadows size.

You can overcome,
You can and you will.
I am living proof of this:
I struggled with all these problems,
9/10 was not good enough for me,
Every loss was accompanied by mental breakdown,
But over time I matured,
I am now in a better place.

Life is short, when you grow up, you'll realise that
the big things were little, and the little things were big.

Nebula Girl - By Asta M

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'It's foggy, cloudy and dark', she said.
'I can't see behind me. I can't see ahead.
Where are the edges? I'm all filled with dread',
Chanted the girl with the nebula head.

'I'm hazy and vague, don't know who I am.
I want to move forward, don't know if I can.
Someone light up my darkness. It feels so strange,
Said the girl with nebulas dancing through her brain.

'Why do I feel this way each, every day?
People say 'move on' but it's just not the same.
I can't pinpoint this feeling, it's ill-defined',
Said the girl with nebulas in her mind.

'It feels like I'm missing a part or a limb.
Up here, the atmosphere is so thin without him.'
The only time she gets her peace
Is when the Nebula girl goes to sleep.

'But then, I still dream of things I have lost.
While the planets spin and the stars are crossed.
When I look at the moon, I still see his face.'
Said the Nebula girl who is lost in her outer space.

Year 8 have been studying poetry and reflecting on its meaning and impact. Here is a critical analysis of *At Grass*, by **Tiffany H**

On the surface, the poem seems to be about racehorses living out their later years, long after racing - and it is. But if you read deeper, you realise that the horses are a metaphor for humans, specifically elderly people. To be put out to grass is to be retired from active duty.

In the first place, the writer feels sad for those in this position. They are 'anonymous', hard to 'pick out', overlooked, barely noticeable.

'Yet fifteen years ago, perhaps / Two dozen distances sufficed to fable them'. In other words, these horses were once winning races, becoming household names ('artificed / To inlay faded, classic Junes'), being the centre of attention ('squadrons of empty cars'). This troubles the writer because he feels that these animals have fallen from grace. Their golden days are long behind them. 'Summer by summer all stole away'.

But on reflection, he sees that their retirement is not so bad after all. Quite the opposite - they are spared the pressures of performance and competition. There are no 'stop-watch prophecies' or rules and obligations.

'Do memories plague their ears like flies?' the writer wonders. With this question, he begins to see things differently. He no longer believes the horses are bothered by the lives they used to live. As with the flies, they are able to shake off the past and live in the present. They've shrugged off their fame and are now able to 'stand at ease' away from the crowds. He understands this as being an entirely good change in their circumstances. He sees them move and it 'must be' with 'joy', because they have much greater freedom now than ever before.

At length then, the writer wants to celebrate their whole life, even the twilight years. By the end, he has learnt from the horses and sees human lives in a new light. Retirement is not to be feared, nor even death. The 'grooms with the bridle' beckon rather than scare.

All in all, I think that *At Grass* is a poem that celebrates life.

Patience

What would you say about your levels of patience? What do others see?

The last of the five virtues that St Paul lists, after compassion, kindness, humility, and gentleness is patience. Like all the virtues mentioned in Paul's letter to the Colossians patience is an essential ingredient in life. Patience has been defined as 'The capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious.' The past two years have demonstrated just how much patience we have had to draw upon.

Patience though is not passive, patience is active - something we need to engage in, choose to be. It may be the patience you choose to show when faced with a specific, immediate, situation where the temptation to just 'let rip' may be almost overwhelming. It may be long term patience as you work towards a future goal, putting in the effort along the way, rather than expecting that goal to just achieve itself. Patience is not about being 'off the pace', looking the other way or letting things slip - it is about endurance, resilience, moving ahead without annoyance or anxiety detracting you or others from your goal. This means we use our time wisely to make the best choices, just as with gentleness, it can be counting to ten slowly before we act, ensuring we allow ourselves time to think and process, to let wisps of ideas flourish into creative, positive impact.

The root of the word that Paul uses for patience in Colossians is also in the letter to the Hebrews, chapter 12, 'Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.' Paul urges patience as Christians face challenges in life, living in a way that seeks to serve and reflect God's love.

Masterchef fans or fans of GB Athletics will know of Kadeena Cox, MBE. A promising summer sprinter and winter skeleton athlete. Kadeena suffered two strokes aged 23, the last one leaving her with a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis. Two years later, in Rio 2016, Kadeena was competing in her first Paralympics winning medals as a sprinter and as a cyclist. In Tokyo she won two more gold medals in cycling and came fourth on the track in the 400m. The endurance, the patience, shown to cope with such a massive change to her life is phenomenal. Kadeena never lost sight of her goals, yet she adjusted, adapted and has overcome.

WELLBEING TIP FOR THE WEEK

Count to 10 slowly and breathe deeply.

MEDITATION AND RELAXING

The Year 7 and 8 pupils have been meditating and relaxing for part of their wellbeing curriculum - with Rev Kitto in the chapel. A wonderful way to learn to switch off!



Prayer

*Dear Heavenly God
Thank you for your patience
with me,
Sorry for times when I have not
been patient with others
Please help me to grow in
patience, to live patiently,
always trusting in you*

Amen

Year 6 are looking at colour this term and here are some stunning apple studies in acrylic. Pupils have been learning colour mixing skills, as well as brush control.



Year 7 are currently enjoying working from the figure and have been looking at Portraiture and heads. Here are some of the fun clay heads they have recently made.



These excellent pastel drawings were made this week from studying the clay sculptures that were recently made by the Year 8 pupils. These have helped them understand the work of our artist in focus, Barbara Hepworth, and will really help the pupils with understanding form, as they get back into refining their stone carvings.



BOARDING LIFE

EDGARLEY MANOR

The Edgarley Manor boys enjoyed learning a new skill - eating noodles with chopsticks - during their late night. This is a reward for doing all their jobs throughout the week. They also baked cup cakes in readiness for the Bath vs Bristol rugby game on the weekend, featuring two Millfield Prep old boys, both of whom have stayed at Edgarley Manor.



HOLLIES

At the beginning of the week, the girls were even more active than usual, completing at least 1000 steps each to run the London marathon as a team. Needless to say, the girls smashed it! Kick rounders, mat sliding and dodgeball made a fun weekend after the trip out to Weston Super Mare, finished off with some evening dancing. Fun for all! **Hope** was awarded our Brilliant Boarder of the week. Dorm 9 and Dorm 10 shared the spoils for Dorm of the Week, for their tidiness and organisation. We also welcomed our first two flexi boarders for this term **Iona** and **Lois**. And finally, a huge well done to the eight Hollies girls who played in the U13 football team this week. It was a tough match but our girls showed their mettle.



BEREWALL

On Saturday night in Berewall it was 'eyes down' for an evening of bingo fun! 'Line' and 'Bingo' echo'd around the house as the boys screamed with joy or cursed their luck, in the quest for the edible prizes!



CHESTNUT

On Wednesday evening, as the sun was setting, the Chestnut boys headed up to the forest. They toasted marshmallows and then squashed them between two chocolate digestives, this makes a delicious s'more! Some of the marshmallows were a little over. (This is code for they caught fire!) We then all sat around the campfire and told spooky stories, jokes and tried to learn words from some of the languages that we have in the house this year. It was a brilliant evening.



CHAMPION

Birthday season continues at Champion. We have had two birthdays to celebrate - **Sofia** turned 12 on Tuesday while **Frankie** became a teenager on Sunday. Happy birthday girls!



SPORTING NEWS

HORSE RIDING

Isla S and Toti had a wonderful time last weekend. Isla was 3rd, competing against riders up to 25-years-old from the Youth Dressage Riders in the south west. So great to have a youngster on the podium. Isla had an amazing dressage test score of 94.6% and then had an average score of 89.75%. Congratulations to Isla and lots of exciting times ahead.



Mimi W on Natty pictured below, competing in cross country.



TENNIS

Arabella G qualified for the U10 Girls Winter Regional Tour in Taunton last Sunday and finished in 9th place winning the consolation.

Ben B, Florie W and **Amelia S** all competed in the Burnham on Sea Grade 5 Tournament on Sunday and we wish Ben all the very best of luck for this weekend, as he has been accepted into the Boys U11 Winter Regional Tour at Bath Uni.



SPORTS NOTICES

Dear Parents,

In order to avoid large groups gathering indoors in the changing rooms we will continue to allow specific year groups to attend school in sports kit on the days listed below. However, as the weather deteriorates, please pack a spare top in case pupils get wet and be assured that we will allow access to changing rooms in such circumstances.

If pupils have an away fixture please attend school in sports kit.
Otherwise students should wear sports kit on the following days:

Year 8 Sports Kit on Monday / Thursday.
Year 7 Sports Kit on Tuesday / Friday.
Year 6 Sports Kit on Wednesday.
Year 5 Sports Kit on Saturday.
Years 3 and 4 Attend school in uniform but will remain in sports kit after curriculum games sessions.

MILLFIELD HOCKEY COURSE

A new 2-day hockey camp will become available soon. Build on your knowledge, skills and abilities or just try out the sport for the first time. For details on the course, click [here](#).

Match teas with a view.

Smiles all around after 4 thrilling games at Monkton. U13b, C and U12b, C.



NETBALL

The U13 netball girls travelled to Taunton School for the first round of the School Sports Magazine national cup round two (we had a bye for round one). After missing the entire season last year to lockdown, there were a few rusty points, but the girls played well and the whole squad all played 50% of the match. They came away winners and progress to round three, to play Truro at Home in November.



Well done to all of the girls who were nominated for trials, you should be very proud. Congratulations to the following pupils who got in;

U13 Somerset Satellite Netball

Asta M

Georgie G

Tabby O

Mila B

Yasmin G

Elis D

Gracie T (One-year young)

Pending late trials – **Lily J and Dora J**

U15 Somerset County Netball

Sloane N (Two-years young)

They will now attend additional training either at Taunton, Yeovil or Millfield over the next 5 months. This is seen as the first stage of the England pathway.





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MILLFIELD
PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



KEY DATES

Thursday 14th October
Deadline for photo returns

Friday 15th October
Half Term Holiday
School finishes at 12 noon

PRE-SCHOOL

PREPARING FOR TAKE-OFF

Wow, what a day Pre-School had on Tuesday, they visited the moon! The day started with the Frogs visiting Tesco to buy provisions for their visit to the moon. Armed with their shopping list, a basket or a trolley, they scoured the store to find their chosen food. Meanwhile, the Tadpoles baked some delicious moon and star shortbread biscuits to take with us to the moon.





PICNIC ON THE MOON

Once all the food was prepared, it was time to get ready! The children popped on their space helmets, collected their faithful friend, moon ticket and boarded the rocket; we were very excited! 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 blast off! Pre-School had a magical time and it has created lots of special memories. We would like to thank everybody who helped create the moon, it was a real team effort.



SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS

Reception class have been enjoying lots of science experiments this week. We used oil, coloured water and baking soda to make our own lava lamp. We also made a rainbow using melted skittles and the pupils loved the erupting volcano and asked for it to erupt again and again. We talked about different reactions and why and how the experiments worked.



YEAR 1

SCAVENGER HUNT

This week in Year 1, we made the most of a dry bit of weather and went out to forest school. The children really enjoyed exploring the area and completing a scavenger hunt. It was amazing what they managed to find, including an abandoned toy, something prickly and something that made a noise! They worked so well in their pairs to complete as much of the hunt as they could.

We also enjoyed an impromptu trip to the moon (thanks to Pre-School) where the children listened to a story and thought about what it would be like without gravity.



TREE SPIRITS

Year 2 used recycled clay to make their own tree spirits in Forest School this week. They used different forest materials to add features, or print shapes into their spirit faces. Great creative and scavenger work Year 2!



POTTERY CLUB

Over the last few weeks, the children have been learning lots about pottery and the process. Can you guess what they are making?



MINIS NEWS



MINI EXPLORERS

The Minis had a great time in the Forest, crossing Helen's amazing wibbly-wobbly rope bridge and discovering the hidden dinosaurs in the sand and rocks. They scooped up water treasure and painted autumn leaves on a tree. The Minis were very good at exploring the forest to find natural objects to hang on their nature mobile. What a fun and busy session spent exploring!

