



#735
26 NOVEMBER 2020



MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MILLFIELD BIOLOGY PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



Well done to **Georgie G**, who won the Prep School competition!



Head to page 3 to read all about the latest virtual Tea and Music Concert and see photos.

CONTENTS

PAGE 2

Picture of the Week
Linguist of the Week
Class Representatives

PAGE 3

Tea and Music Concert

PAGE 4

ICT & Computing
Juniors' Kindness Awards

PAGE 5

Wellbeing Resource Challenge
Creative Writing

PAGE 6

Chaplain's Thought of the Week
Design Technology

PAGE 7

Food Technology
EAL Pupil of the Week

PAGE 8-9

Boarding Life

PAGE 10-11

Sporting News

PAGE 12-13

Pre-Prep News

PARENT NOTICES

Girls from Year 6-8 will be playing football and potentially some rugby after Christmas. Please could they have football boots in preparation.

Picture of the Week

LINGUIST OF THE WEEK

2



This week's Picture of the Week is this excellent painting by **Masha Z 8RM/DBS**.



Our Linguist of the Week this week is **Ale M C** who has really impressed her teachers in both French and Latin.

Ale works extremely hard, even completing extra work over the weekend in order to practise her Latin, and she is making really good progress as a result.

Congratulations Ale, and keep up the good work!

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Please bring in any contributions for the Christmas hampers, which will be distributed to the local community, before the end of term - in person or via Amazon Pantry.

A huge thank you in advance for your generosity: it makes a huge difference to the lives of families who are struggling even more during this pandemic.

Any queries please contact kitto.m@millfieldprep.com

Class Representatives

Well done to all of our class representatives:

Year 3
Raffie B

Year 4
Georgina F
Flynn E

Year 5
Cameron P
Lilly W
Sophie F

Year 6
Vienna T
Charlie L
Luke B
Oli H

Year 7
Elis D
Ffion L
Toby M
Daniel J
Victoria B
Sloane N

Year 8
Daniel C
Henny C
Oliver N
Dexter T
Vansh S
Rafferty S
Ezra B
Thomas S

TEA AND MUSIC CONCERT

After the success of last week's concert, Tuesday evening saw the second Tea and Music concert of the year broadcast via YouTube Premiere and we were treated to some outstanding performances by our talented musicians. As was the case last week, we were determined to give our pupils the sense of occasion associated with live performance, despite current circumstances preventing live events and so, as part of the recording process, we asked that they perform in front of their classes affording a friendly audience as well as that all important opportunity for a bow! The pupils all rose to the challenge and produced some truly outstanding performances. The concert included a wide range of instruments - piano, guitar, harp, flute, oboe, saxophone, violin, cello, double bass, drum kit, marimba and voice - and with such variety, something was provided for every taste in music. The standard was exceptional and the pupils all demonstrated a great deal of enthusiasm and professionalism throughout the recording process - each can be extremely proud of what they have achieved. Thanks must go again to all the pupils who acted as supportive audience members and also of course to the music staff who prepared the pupils so wonderfully well. As ever, we would also like to take this opportunity to thank the parents of those pupils involved for all the encouragement given behind the scenes, without which of course, these concerts simply would not be possible. I am extremely proud to be able to say that we had 55 performances across the two concerts - nearly two hours' worth of music - which I feel is a true testament to the strength and love of music in our school. Bravo to all involved and thank you for entertaining us so beautifully.

Year 4

Posy L and **Tammy R** – oboes



Year 6

Dorian L – violin

Enid M – flute

Freddie G – double bass

Lily S – cello

Frederick H – violin

Josh S – piano

Tom B – cello

Amber J – marimba

Luke B – violin



Year 7

Asta M – voice

Elis D – piano

Hector J – guitar

Bertie W – double bass

Lottie R-B – flute

Chloe J – harp

Victoria B – piano



Year 8

Isla M – voice

Scarlett B – piano

Sylvie B – double bass

Steffi B D L O – voice

Benjamin L – piano

Ed R – saxophone

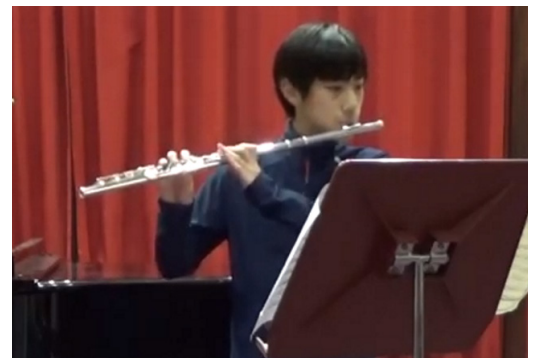
Will M-H – drums

Emily C – piano

Ivan T – flute

Tamara G V – violin

Rafferty S – guitar



ICT & COMPUTING

Pupils in Years 6, 7 & 8 have all been studying Programming & Coding in their weekly Computing & ICT lessons this half of term.

Year 6 have been looking at Kodu Game Lab.

What is Kodu Game Lab?

Kodu Game Lab is a 3D game development environment that is designed to teach basic programming principles. It allows creators to build their world's terrain, populate it with characters and props, and then programme their behaviours and the game's rules in a bespoke visual programming language.

Year 7 have been looking at Scratch and have been creating their own Pac-Man style game.

What is Scratch?

Scratch is a programming language where you can programme your own interactive stories, games and animations. Its graphical nature helps the users to learn how to think creatively, reason systematically and work collaboratively — all essential skills for life in the 21st century.

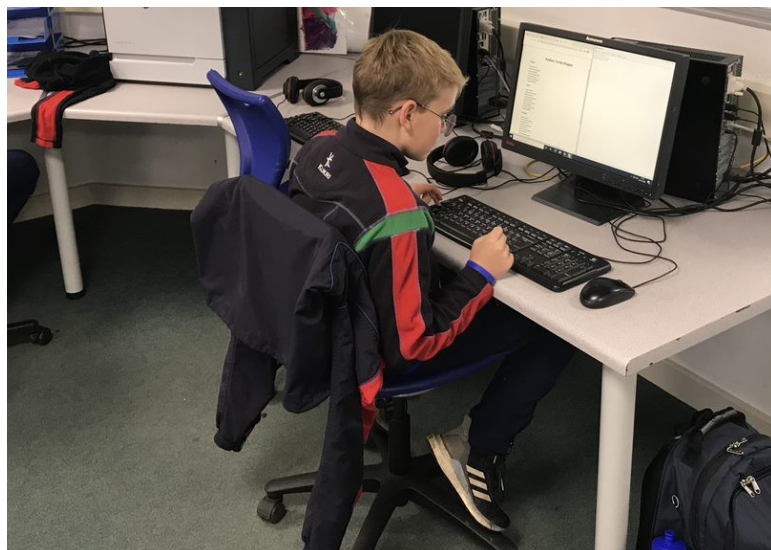
Year 8 have been introduced to text based programming by learning the Python Programming Language.

What is the Python Programming Language?

Python is a powerful general purpose programming language that is used in web development, data science, creating software prototypes and much more. It has simple easy to use syntax that makes Python an excellent language to introduce text based programming.

I have been really pleased with the way all the pupils have engaged in their lessons this term and they have shown great creativity in the different programming & coding tasks completed.

- Mr Ford



JUNIORS' KINDNESS AWARDS

4

This week the recipients are:

Miffy – **Christian P 3BJD** – Christian is always one of the first to offer to lend a hand, hold doors open and generally look out for other people.

Chota – **Charlie P 5VAS** – Charlie was extremely kind and encouraging to the Year 3s at lunchtime tennis club.

Oreo – **Bailey B 4MCJ** – Bailey only joined the school a few weeks ago, yet has shown amazing adaptability, both in his lessons and the school environment and it is like he has been here since the beginning of the year. Well done, Bailey!



Wellbeing Resource Challenge

Pupils responded to the challenge of creating a wellbeing resource for their classroom/tutor group. This was started on Children in Need day, as the charity asked schools to focus on and get pupils thinking about their own wellbeing.

A huge amount of effort was made and the creativity was immense. What I think has been so valuable is that staff and pupils have been talking about their wellbeing and sharing ideas. I hope this will continue.

A huge roundup of entries from jars, to decorated classroom corners, to videos. It was so hard to judge as they were all so fantastic, but here are the winners from each category:

Winners

4ESH - best display that the whole school could see!

5VAH - best storytelling resource

6BVG - best corner of a room

7AYC - most productive group, creating more than one entry

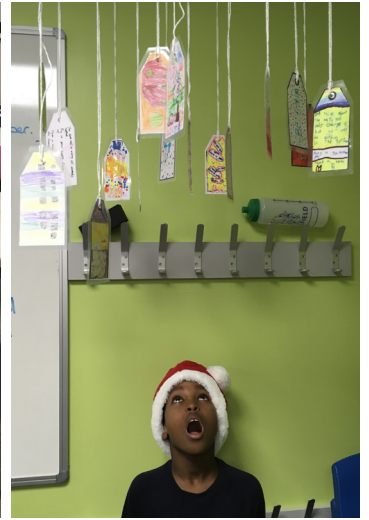
8ECC - smallest entry, but very thoughtful

The prize is a choice of wellbeing activities that the group can select from.

The winning video will be decided by the pupils and announced soon.

Well done, everyone!

- Reverend Kitto



Just Dessert

This is a lovely piece of work by **Matilda W** called *Just Dessert*.

One torrential autumn in a quaint town, the streets turned to a sea of amber leaves. Wind howled muffling the cries seeping out of the traditional Chilton school. Concealed behind a veil of dark green ivy, its cracked wall held many secrets.

In a dorm, a spell was being performed. Three children, two books and one pumpkin. "Come alive, on the count of five. Arrive to us and survive. 1,2,3,4,5," they chanted again and again, hands locked, candles lit. Then with a sudden gust of wind, the candles went out, plunging the room into darkness. An orange light emerged from within the pumpkin and it bounced off the room, turning back to its regular orange shade.

The girls cried with joy, shouting, "It worked! It worked!" Until they heard ear-splitting screams from the corridor. As quick as a cheetah, they sprinted through the doorway, their black boots tapping on the splintered oak floor boards. They soon realised the screams were leading to the kitchen. As they ran along the dimly lit corridors, they noticed the destruction the pumpkin had left in its wake.

When they got to the kitchen, they saw one of the newer matrons was standing over the pumpkin. Except the pumpkin was glowing like a star. She moved the knife side to side, mesmerised like a deer in headlights. Then, without warning she raised the knife above her head, there was an explosion of bright, glowing light and orange slush mixed with seeds flew everywhere.

The Headmistress was doing her evening inspection in each boarding house and, as she walked past the kitchen, her black dress was sprayed with seeds. She was worried, as she saw the strange glow coming out of the kitchen and she rushed in to see what was happening. She was horrified to see Matron in a strange trance, like a snake to music. She was holding a very large, sharp knife! The Headmistress grabbed the knife out of her hands and looked around the kitchen. She heard giggling coming from the corner cupboard and found the students.

She then gave the girls their just dessert, in chores!

I think 'just dessert' means karma. Getting what you deserve, so in this case the girls had caused the trouble, meaning it was them who needed a just dessert.

CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

This week brought us the final of the Great British Bake Off. Whether a fan of the show or not, whether a cake lover, or not (even the show's artist, Tom Hovey, who draws the contestant's cake designs admits "I'm just not that into cakes"!), the GBBO has been a great success. The winner was a very determined 20-year-old, who started watching the show when he was very young.

Many were upset by the departure of Hermine at last week's semi-finals. Afterwards she posted a wonderful message on twitter, saying "The journey has proved to me that being yourself is all you need to be. Never let your fear come between you and the things you could achieve. It is okay to try new things, to be silly every now and then, and to laugh at your own silly self." Finally, she added, "It does not make you any less reliable and dependable as a person. Yet it is liberating for your soul." A great lesson to us all - it's the journey, not the winning, that's the most important part and being gracious in defeat is a lesson to us all.

We are all very different and yet we are all very busy adapting, trying new things, working in ways that are not always comfortable and stepping into new territory with a great deal of courage. In all of this it is so important not to lose sight of who we are, remembering that we are important too, that we need to care for ourselves, to be ourselves, to laugh and yes even to be silly! Being yourself is so important. 'Liberate your soul' by being true to you: that includes looking after yourself wisely and well, physically, emotionally and spiritually too.

Jesus demonstrated love and care to all people, regardless of race or beliefs. The Bible uses the word 'grace' to reflect 'God's unmerited favour' offered to all people, invitational and inclusive, the core of the Christian faith.

*Dear God
Thank you for your gift of grace, offered to all people.
Help me to show grace to those around me.
In demonstrating grace please help me to be authentic, to be brave.
Help me to show grace to myself too.
Amen*

Wellbeing tip for the week: This week, share random acts of kindness, of grace, with others and with yourself too! Give a friend a call – phone, old school, not a zoom! Encourage a colleague or a friend with time for a (socially distanced) chat. Treat yourself to a walk, a favourite TV show or to simply to doing nothing! Allow some grace and peace into your life.

- Reverend Kitto

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

6

One group in Year 5 have been working hard producing fantastic environmental board games.

They worked on graphic skills early in the term and then used their knowledge about the environment to come up with a range of different board game ideas. They have created games about the melting ice caps, the rainforest, recycling and many many more.

Another DT group have been in the workshop sharpening their skills producing wooden cars. The cars have been carefully cut and shaped and the wheels are now starting to be attached. Well done Year 5!



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

It has been an incredible term in Food Technology and it has been so good to have pupils in the kitchen doing practical work. The measures in place to make the practicals COVID-safe felt quite strange at first but typically, the pupils have adapted quickly and now the new regime is very definitely normal.

In Year 5 pupils have been making baked apples and fresh fruit salad, Year 6 have worked their way through the three cake-making methods, found out about the history of the sandwich and made a delicious pasta salad. Year 7 have been researching the importance of eating at least five portions of fruit and vegetables, making a crumble, some chunky chips and identifying some unusual fruit and vegetables. Year 8 have excelled with bread-making as well as making Bolognese, bechamel and egg fried rice!

A good term - thanks everyone for making it possible.



EAL PUPIL OF THE WEEK



Our EAL Pupil of the Week Award goes to **Taiga S.**

He has impressed us with how well he concentrates in class and the amount of new vocabulary he has learnt. Taiga is always very chatty, full of questions and loves to discuss any topics of interest.

Well done, Taiga!



Boarding Life

CHESTNUT @MPS_CHESTNUT

Even though it is still November, the boys have started to get ready for Christmas! They used copious amounts of paint, glitter and anything sparkly to embellish their decorations, which will go onto the house tree before they can take them home at the holidays. Whilst the paint was drying, they made paper Christmas trees out of old books. They found it strangely addictive!



CHAMPION @CHAMPIONMPS

Christmas craft activities are always popular in Champion and this week has been no exception. On Tuesday, the girls created an amazing advent calendar with a difference and on Wednesday the girls created some fantastic paper chains with a Christmas theme. We had a surprise delivery of delicious cakes and our Bake Off competition continued with scones. There then followed a lively debate of which should come first - jam or cream?



Boarding Life

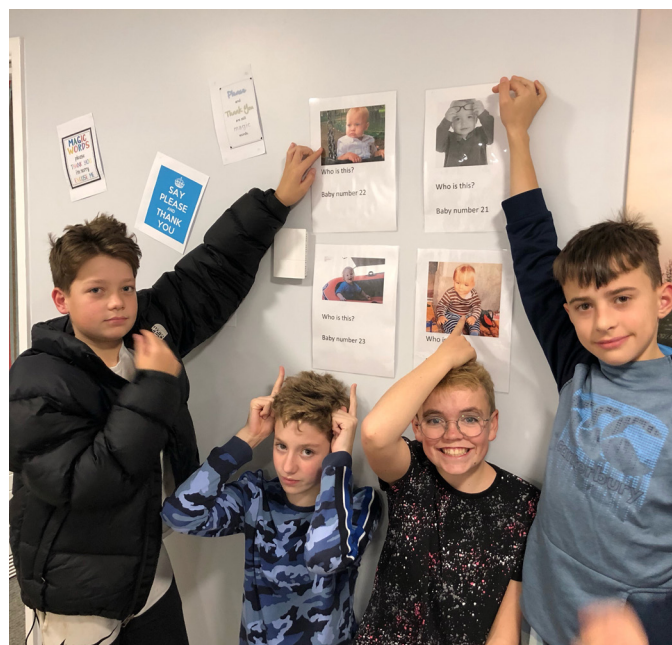
HOLLIES @MPS_HOLLIES

Exeat weekend was a welcome chance to recharge the batteries for many. Girls remaining in Hollies were excited to build their own pizzas for Friday supper and enjoy a late night film, with a bonus visit to the tuck shop. Over the weekend, activities such as Danish Longball, drama workshops and Christmas crafts kept the girls busy before we welcomed the returners back on Sunday evening. Christmas preparations have continued with the organisation of a Secret Santa exchange within the house. Many extra packages are now weighing down our postman! The next delicious entry in our Bake Off competition was handcrafted by **Milly, Natalia, Annabelle** and **Charlotte** this week using honeycombe and edible flowers. The girls were spoiled again later in the week with some Christmas biscuits sent by a kind parent. And finally, another incredible cake was delivered to celebrate the arrival of one more teenager in the house – happy birthday, **Louise!**



BEREWALL @BEREWALLHOUSE

For an extra fundraiser for Children in Need, the boys all submitted a baby photo of themselves and we had a Guess The Baby Competition. Well done to **Alex**, who won by successfully guessing all entries!! The biggest winner was Children in Need, with a £65 donation.



SPORTING NEWS

EQUESTRIAN

Lots of riders took part in another Wednesday afternoon show jumping competition.

All the riders rode so well, all showing great improvement, especially those in class 5 and 6.

Here are some of the results:

Class 1 70-75cm

1st - **Mimi W** on Cameron
2nd - **Isla S** on Buddy
3rd - **Zara B** on Piper

Class 2 80-85cm

1st - **Ava A** on June
2nd - **Mimi W** on Cameron
3rd - **Isla S** on Memphis
4th - **Mimi W** on Ruby

In the jump off, there was less than 3 seconds between the riders. Well done everyone!

Class 3 90-95cm

1st - **Myla C** on Billy C
2nd - **Emily G** on Bruce
3rd - **Emily G** on Dusty
4th - **Ava A** on June.

Class 4 1m

1st - **Emily G** on Bruce
2nd - **Myla C** on Billy C
3rd - **Agatha S** on Billy

Class 5 40cm

1st - **Frankie Y** on Louella
2nd - **Matilda R-C** on Bluebell
3rd - **Tilly B** on Mr Pickles and **Dotti S** on Missy

Class 6 50cm

1st - **Dotti S** on Missy
2nd - **Frankie Y** on Louella
3rd - **Tilly B** on Mr Pickles

RIDER OF THE WEEK

This week's Rider of the Week is **Sarah B**. After having a disagreement with a tree (nothing to do with a horse), Sarah has unfortunately been off sports due to concussion. However, even though she has been unable to ride herself, Sarah has been down at the stables, helping on the yard and being a fabulous support to other riders at the show jumping competitions. Sarah is always happy and willing to help! We can't wait to get her back on a horse when she is fully fit.



A lovely photo of **Isla S** jumping Memphis on Thursday morning. Isla has done so well and her jumping has improved so much this term - well done, Isla!



Our early morning riders! **Louise H** on Mr Ed who went for a birthday gallop around the field and **Isla S** and **Myla C** having a great jumping session.



SPORTING NEWS

CROSS COUNTRY

The Year 7 and 8 runners raced against the clock again on Tuesday. The weather was dry but very very cold. This seemed to spur them all on to run fast! Comparing their times with their previous races, they are all getting faster which shows their training is working well. Thank you to Miss Johnson for her time-keeping and photography skills. The Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 runners will be racing next week (they are hoping for warmer weather!).



RUGBY

The Year 6 girls have been enjoying their rugby lessons in Games this week!





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MILLFIELD
PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGES FROM THE HEAD OF PRE-PREP

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Thanks for everyone's support of our annual Christmas Card fundraiser, which raised a fantastic £240 for charity.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE

We would like to invite all budding designers to create a Gingerbread House Masterpiece! As this is all for fun, please feel free to be as imaginative and creative as you can, using a range of materials.

RECEPTION

ROAD SAFETY FILM



Following Road Safety Week last week, the Reception class wanted to make a TV advert to show to the rest of the school and their parents. This would be to show everybody how to cross the road safely. The

children worked very hard planning the advert, making sure that they included all the elements of how to cross the road correctly. They then decided that the video needed a song, which they made up themselves. I think you will agree they have created a very informative advert.

Click the camera icon to watch.

DIARY



SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER & 4 DECEMBER

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Swimming

THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER

Christingle Service

THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER

Christmas Jumper Day &
Christmas lunch
Gingerbread House Judging



YEAR 1

ALL TIED UP IN KNOTS

Year 1 went to Forest School and had a great time in the autumn sunshine. They learnt how to tie knots in a piece of rope and made a knot at each end.

The children then found out how to twist the rope to open up a section of it. This enabled them to thread a variety of autumn leaves into the rope to make a leaf rope.

Now they are using these skills to tie their scarves by themselves.



YEAR 2

CRAZY BALLOON CARS

Year 2 had an exciting afternoon as they started to make their balloon cars.

They learnt how to use the saws safely and measure the wood accurately. The children stepped up to the challenge and cut their wood with ease.

Next week, we will be having balloon car races and measuring how far the cars travel.

BRILLIANT BIRD FEEDERS

The Reception children have been over in the Forest School making bird feeders. They threaded Cheerios onto twine and hung them in the trees.



GLITTER AND GOLF

Glitter has arrived in Pre-School, which can mean only one thing... it's Christmas time! The children are starting their festive crafts by creating their own Christmas cards. Ideas are flowing for other decoration ideas, so watch this space!

The Frogs have also enjoyed the game of golf, reinforcing the sound 'G' that they are learning. They have been perfecting their swing and seeing if they can hit the 'G' sign. Great fun!



PERFECT POURING

This week in Pre-School, the children have been learning to pour their own drinks at snack time. This is a really important skill, being able to think about how much liquid they need to pour into their cup. All the children were fantastic and we have had no spills! They all took their time, concentrated and looked inside their cup, being able to decide when their cup was half full. Well done Pre-School, great job!

