
THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

8 June 2018

With internal and external exams in full swing, last week's half term seems a world away already but I trust you all enjoyed a relaxing break. As you can imagine, the Senior School and Sixth Form have been a little quiet these past few days with all the girls immersed in their exams and an enormous sense of industry permeates these unusually silent areas. Both our A-level and GCSE students are at a stage where they can see light at the end of the tunnel and I feel sure that everyone else will be in celebratory mood this afternoon for the end of their internal examinations.

The Junior School are enjoying their Sports Day today and I am just so glad that the weather hasn't put paid to all the efforts by the PE Department to make this a super fun and memorable day. I know it is a highlight for so many of the girls and I wish them lots of luck in all of their different events. I am so disappointed to miss this lovely day but, instead, I am battling the delights of the London Underground to get to the GSA (Girls' Schools Association) Summer Briefing.



On another note, we are hugely looking forward to our 'Vision for the Future' evening next Thursday 14 June and I am delighted that so many of our parents and supporters are able to attend. If you haven't managed yet to reply to the invitation, it is not too late. However, we would appreciate it if you could send an email to marketing@maynard.co.uk to let us know if you are coming as we need an idea of numbers to make sure we have sufficient fizz and canapés!

In the meantime, on to our news.

Success in the Physics Challenge

Just before half term some of the Lower Five Physics students took part in the Year 10 British Physics Olympiad challenge held by the University of Oxford. We were really proud of all their achievements in this impromptu competition, devised to challenge students by offering them a range of familiar and unfamiliar problems to solve from identifying famous Physicists to solving challenging circuits.

6400 students took part from 140 schools and four of our students achieved awards. Harriet Chambers was awarded a silver certificate which was an outstanding achievement and Shweta Banerjee, Verity Howle and Elizabeth Bowden all excelled to achieve the Bronze certificates. "I haven't told them yet because they are doing their summer examinations but I would like to say a really big well done to these girls for when they read this," says Mrs Weeks.



Fabulous concert in the Cathedral for Hospiscare

The Brahms Requiem Concert at the start of half term was a stunning affair and our thanks to the 21 girls, five members of staff and two parents who all performed so splendidly to a packed Cathedral. Our students showed impressive professionalism singing so beautifully as part of a large choir and we were very proud of them all. We hope that the concert has raised a significant sum for its very worthy cause, Hospiscare.

The BUDFAS 'Budding Creativity' Mural

Our congratulations to our team of artists in Upper Four who have created this stunning mural as our contribution to the BUDFAS (Budleigh Salterton Decorative and Fine Art Society) Festival. Led by Romily Dexter-Savill, the 8-strong team have spent hours and hours creating this fabulous piece, working on the theme of gold. It will go on display somewhere in Budleigh Salterton from the beginning of July so do keep a look out if you are in the town during the holidays.



In the meantime, our very many thanks to Romily, Isabelle Ibrahim, Georgina Watts, Katie Pile, Claudia Riley, Maddie McLaughlin, Charlotte Goodridge and Lucy Sproule for such a wonderful work of art.

Attention all artists, designers and creative minds!

The new Maynard STEM Society, launching next term, needs a logo! It will be used in everything we do in STEM next year so needs to be:

- Eye catching
- Unique
- Clever, inventive or interesting
- Linked to Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths (or a mixture)

Your entry can be created by hand or using graphic software (it should be A4 size) and should be submitted as a hard copy or via email to KatieParsons@maynard.co.uk by 4pm on Thursday 28 June. There will, of course, be prizes for the winner!

Caitlin gains Gold

We are delighted to report that Caitlin Davies (Upper 6) has achieved her gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. The DofE scheme is all about pushing yourself physically, helping others and exploring new territories and it also holds an enormous amount of value with 100 top employers in the UK stating that they recognise its importance when recruiting. To have achieved the top level is a remarkable achievement and will hold Caitlin in very good stead for the future. Our many congratulations to her.

Individual music successes

An enormous well done to Tina Forsyth (Lower 5) for gaining an excellent distinction in her Grade 8 piano. This is wonderful news and a well-deserved success for one of the school's leading musicians.



Likewise, we were thrilled to hear that Kristina Pavic (Year 6) has gained a distinction in her Grade 6 violin (to accompany the Grade 6 saxophone with merit that she achieved last term).

Kristina plays for the Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra, the Devon Youth Symphony Orchestra and leads the Devon Youth Concert Orchestra - three groups at county level and she's only in Year 6!

A message from the Library

It's that time of year again and we are calling all volunteers to help us win £5000 worth of tokens for the school library through the National Book Tokens competition. You can also win £100 for yourself! It is easy to enter the competition online and it really only takes a minute so please do help our chances by clicking here: <http://po.st/schools18>

Charity fundraising by the Player sisters

We were very proud to hear that Ellen and Alice Player (Upper 6 and Upper 4) took part in the recent Cadbury Fun Run/Walk/Eat Cake 2018 event to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis and the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

Accompanied by Lettice Jephson (whose owner Mrs Jephson is our Art Technician), Rosy, Mossie and Lottie they all achieved a very good time, finishing in high spirits and having raised £160 for charity.



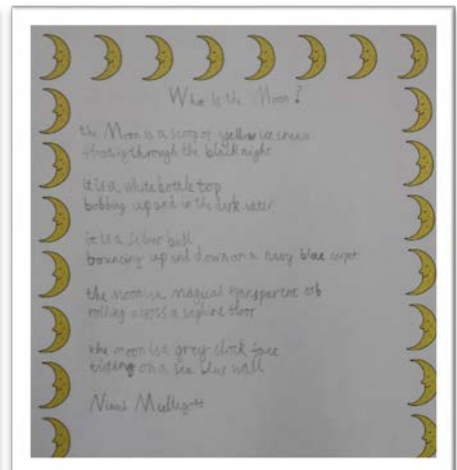
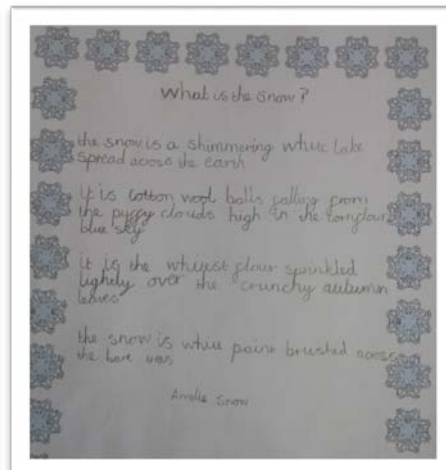
Textiles fun for the Year 6s

The girls in Year 6 are nearing completion of their summer Textiles project to make their own pyjama shorts. They have become very adept at using the sewing machines and we just love all the many different prints that they have chosen!



Beautiful poetry from Year Three

Year Three have enjoyed reading Wes Magee's poetry this half term and have produced some fantastic poems inspired by his 'What is the Sun?'. We are so impressed by their very mature use of vocabulary and the manner in which they have mirrored Magee's style. As ever, however, we don't have space to feature them all here but include just a few as examples of the variety and sheer quality shown by the entire class.



Literacy in the Pre-Prep

Years 1 and 2 have been learning about female historical figures, starting with the story of Grace Darling who helped her father row out to a shipwreck to rescue nine people in a terrible storm when she was just 15 years old. The girls looked at how very different her rowing boat is compared to the lifeboats they saw in Exmouth on their trip before half term. They have also produced some super paintings and beautiful writing.



Some sporting news

It has been a quiet week in the Senior School with the girls all engrossed in their exams, but the Juniors have continued to enjoy a busy week of Rounders matches, sports clubs and preparations for Sports Day!

Our Year 4 Tennis Academy players who have early morning weekly coaching with our Head of Tennis, Mr Rycroft, continue to make solid progress with their shot techniques and movement around the court.

Equally, our Year 5 and Year 6 Rounders Club players enjoyed a wonderful friendly match against St. Leonard's Primary School yesterday. The 6s played against a mixed team and were immediately taken aback when the first five batters from the opposition scored rounders off their first bat! But they rose to the challenge amazingly well, tightening up their fielding, and with consistent bowling and impressive batting themselves managed to hold off their skilful opponents to win by 16-14.5.

The Year 5s also played a very tightly contested game with both teams displaying good tactical decisions and accurate fielding. This team have learnt and progressed so much this term and thoroughly deserved their win of 10.5 - 8.5. It was a really lovely fixture with our local primary school; all the players showed exemplary sportsmanship and both sides scored lots of rounders!





Rising to the skipping challenge!

If any of our recent visitors to the Junior School are wondering why there are quite so many skipping ropes on display it is because Mrs Reynolds has set them all a challenge over the next few weeks to practice skipping - individually, in pairs, or in groups. And our girls love a challenge! They are coming up with new skipping skills, making up songs and playing games with their buddies from younger years, too. The playground has been skiptastic in the mornings and at break times!

Mini Maynard Masterchefs

We enjoyed our first ever Mini Masterchef session on Tuesday when we welcomed a group of pre-school girls and boys to the school. They had a great time making funny face pizzas and, while these were in the oven, they also dabbled in some 'funny face activities' and read 'The Tiger who came to Tea' with Mrs Meaton. We look forward to hosting more of these weekly sessions throughout the rest of term.



Transition day runs smoothly

We welcomed some of the girls entering our Reception class in September for a transition day yesterday and they all settled in beautifully - it was as if they were already at the school! We have ten girls signed up so far and those that could make it yesterday enjoyed an afternoon of stories, painting and lots of play to help them get to know each other and feel comfortable in their new class.

And, finally

We are fully aware that this newsletter is somewhat Junior School and Pre-Prep top heavy but, being exam week further up the school, there has been very little to report on from that perspective. Business will return to normal next week but, in the meantime, we finish this week with these lovely photos of the Reception class having a ball at Forest School.



Have a fabulous weekend!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Sarah Dunn".

Sarah Dunn
Headmistress
