

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

21 June 2019

We are on the crest of a wave having yesterday been awarded the very elusive Wellbeing in Schools Award, making us one of the first all-through (4 to 18 years) schools in the South West to be recognised for our outstanding wellbeing provision. This is no easy task, with many layers of criteria to pass and we also know that other schools have previously not made the grade and been declined.

Not only did we pass, but the inspector said the school was exceptional and that she agreed with The Good Schools Guide that there was 'something magical about The Maynard'! She went on to say that our caring and kind ethos really stood out, as did the passion found in staff, Governors and pupils. So this is a really super result and quite a feather in our cap so we are justifiably very proud!

Elsewhere, the public exams here all now completely finished and there have been palpable sighs of relief from students, invigilators and staff throughout the week. Tonight we say a fond farewell to our lovely Upper Sixth at their Leavers' Dinner and I am very much looking forward to joining them at this super glamorous occasion. Equally, the Upper 5s are preparing for their Prom at the Exeter Castle tonight - a quick turn-around for some who only finished their long DofE Silver Expedition in Land's End yesterday evening.

Earlier this week, we welcomed nearly 50 prospective families to our Open Evening who all enjoyed a fabulous time looking around the school and involving themselves in the very many activities organised by the various departments. It was also lovely to see so many of our current parents in attendance and thank you very much for coming along!





May I take this opportunity to remind you that next Thursday 27 June we are hosting our first ever Summer Garden Party as an opportunity for parents to mingle, chat with staff and enjoy a glass of fizz in the sunshine (fingers crossed!) to celebrate another successful academic year. We are also delighted to be holding the A-level and GCSE Art Exhibition at the same time which is a great chance to see the incredible works that the girls have produced during their courses - prepare to be amazed by the exceptional quality! If you haven't done so already,

we would be very grateful if you could let us know if you are coming so we can cater accordingly. You can just drop us a line on marketing@maynard.co.uk and we look forward to seeing you there!

On to the week's news

Great day of Maths for the Lower 5s

Yesterday, 15 of our Lower 5 girls attended the "Maths is your future!" event run by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme at University of Exeter. They worked as a team on maths challenge problems, solved brand new Japanese puzzles and learned some mathematical magic tricks! The day was full of fascinating mathematical concepts they had never seen before, as well as amazing applications, such as origami modelling used in heart valves and in outer space! It was an excellent day enjoyed by all.



Upper 5s complete Silver DofE expedition



Congratulations to all of those Upper 5 girls who, having only finished their GCSEs on Friday, came back to school on Monday to head off to Land's End for the re-run of their Silver DofE Expedition. This was originally scheduled for September but had to be postponed due severe weather, hence the timing, but the girls had a ball and even the sun shone (for some of it)! They were absolutely amazing, showed excellent team work, great navigation (for the most part) and were thoroughly enjoyable to spend three days with! Well done, girls!

Queen Nefertiti in Year 3

Year 3 have had lots of fun, as usual, in their Art and Craft lessons. They have been learning about Ancient Egypt in History and Queen Nefertiti was their inspiration for this particular artwork...a regal array of Egyptian Queens. Can you recognise them?



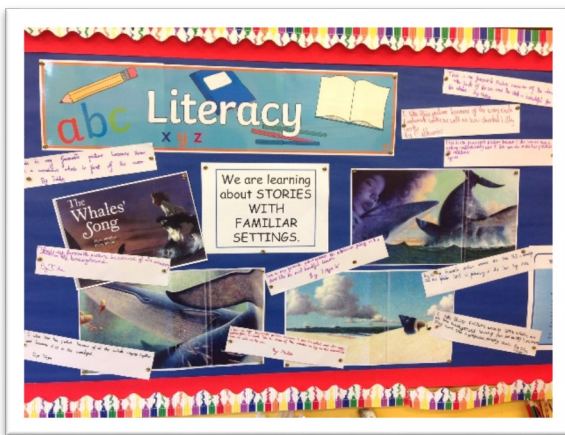
Starfish completed!

Year 2 have finished their beautiful papier-mâché starfish as part of their 'Under the Sea' topic they have been studying. We love them!



Maths and mass in Year 1

The Year 1 girls have been learning about mass in their maths lessons this week. They have been using balances to weigh classroom items as well as trying to solve some problems using the cubes. As ever, they worked beautifully in their pairs.

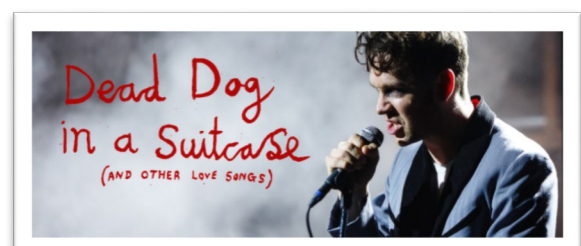


Creative Writing in Year 2

In Literacy recently the Year 2's have been exploring the wonderful book 'The Whale's Song', and planning their own stories in familiar settings. This week the girls have been writing a story plan, thinking carefully about their setting, characters and storyline - they have also come up with their own imaginative titles including, 'The Wolf's Howl', 'The Tiger's Roar' and 'The Colourful Ostrich'! We can't wait to read these exciting stories by our budding Year 2 authors!

Drama trip to the Northcott Theatre

On Wednesday, the GCSE and A-Level Drama students, along with a raft of Maynard staff, went to the Northcott Theatre to see 'Dead Dog in a Suitcase', and other love songs' - the brilliant re-imagining of John Gay's 'Beggars' Opera' - by the fabulous Kneehigh Theatre Company. As Romily in Lower 5 reports: "It was highly political with a strong moral message - totally captivating!"



We really enjoyed the show and it posed some very interesting questions about our society today.

Records fall at the Junior School Sports Day



Last Friday saw the excitement of the Junior School Sports Day house competition for Years 3-6, with the field events taking place at school in the morning and then on to Exeter Arena for the afternoon's track events.

Following a very wet and wild week of weather we felt very blessed to have a relatively dry day for the competition, and the competitors were all in high spirits, many wearing beautiful house coloured hair accessories from one of the Year 6 £5 virgin challenge charity businesses.



With great support from family members in the stand and the house teams trackside, we saw several stand out performances throughout the day with a number of new records set in both **Field and Track events:**

Year 3

Milly: 400m 1:29min

Year 4

Laura: Standing Long Jump 1.75m (beating previous record held by her sister, Ava!) and Chest Push 7.91m

Jasmine: 600m 2:11min equalling record set in 2008

Year 6

Sofija: Javelin 15.40m

Darcey: Speed Bounce 78 Bounces

Ava: Quoit Sling 26.71m

Darcey: 80m Sprint 11.37s



Haberdashers took an early lead following the field events, and extended this lead substantially upon the track, ending as overall competition winners for the 3rd consecutive year.

Well done to all the girls for taking part with such pride in their houses!

OTHER SPORT NEWS

National and Regional team selections

A number of our girls have just learned that they have been successful after recent trials for various leagues in their different disciplines:

- Dulcie Fraser in Football has been selected for the Exeter City Football Club Under 16s
- Annie Grief - Netball Team Bath regional performance squad
- Evangeline Davies - Basketball SW Regional performance centre

- Natalie Charity has been selected for the Girls U14 England Basketball Team and is off to Copenhagen to represent her country on Wednesday in an international tournament.

#thesegirlscan!

Through to the County Tennis Finals

Huge congratulations to the Under 15 tennis team who won against a very strong side representing Newton Abbot College earlier in the week. Florrie, Katie, Sophie and Meg played to a super standard, winning 4 - 2 and taking them through to the Devon finals which took place yesterday.

Given that they are all a year young for this age group, it was a remarkable feat to run the Trinity School opposition so close to the wire in the finals just a couple of days later, only narrowly conceding the match in a shootout having tied 6-6.



Swim season ends on another victorious note



We saw an end to a really success swim season on Thursday with a super close match against Blundells.

The U12s smashed it again meaning that they have not lost a race all season. Equally, the Under 13s posted some excellent individual performances and they were very evenly matched with their opponents making for some exciting finishes. The Under 15 girls had a particularly tough competition but they worked incredibly hard to gain valuable points, helping us to an overall 87-81 victory.

Our thanks to Emily in the Lower Sixth who has been an absolute superstar acting as team manager throughout this season.

Oh, what a beautiful morning

The marquee on Leebourne has become a most useful and adaptable space during the recent rainy conditions with the Junior School girls enjoying a little outdoor yoga session in it earlier in the week - a lovely, and sheltered, outdoor opportunity!





Lovely rounders matches against ECS

The Under 10s enjoyed some fun rounders matches against Exeter Cathedral School on Tuesday with the A Team winning 18.5 - 12 against their Under 11 opponents. Equally, the B team put in some sterling performances against the ECS Under 10s but unfortunately lost 19.5 - 13. These are always very lovely, friendly matches and much enjoyed by all those involved.

A note about the Mount Radford Lawn

Some of you may know that the school is no longer able to use the Mount Radford Lawn as a playing field because it is being sold for development. However, St Leonards Neighbourhood Association is petitioning heavily against planning permission so the Lawn can be kept for sports and recreational purposes which both the school and the local community would benefit from.

Currently they are planning their strategy for both objecting to any planning application and to see how they could attempt to own the land if and when planning permission is refused. One aspect of their objection will be to try to prove that the playing field is not 'surplus to requirements'. National planning policy says that playing fields will not be built on unless they are surplus to requirements.

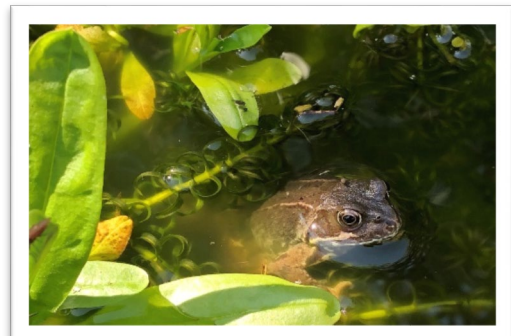
The SLNA (St Leonards Neighbourhood Association) has produced a 'vision document' [SEE HERE](#) which sets out their ideas and includes a statement that the School gave them. They have also drawn up a survey [SEE HERE](#) to assess how the community, of which The Maynard is part of, feels about the future of the land.

Therefore, the SLNA have asked us to circulate these links to the Maynard community so that you can complete their survey. Survey responses to date have been extremely good but they want to keep building on these numbers as much as they can. The process of application, appeal and appeal again will take a long time but they feel that they need to be as prepared as the opposition.

If you could spare some time to support their cause by completing the survey, it would be very much appreciated - it takes about 3 minutes.

Hannah scoops photography prize

Congratulations to Hannah Sophia (Upper 3) who recently discovered she had won the Under 17 group of the Devon Nature and Landscape Photography Competition. She received the news at an event in Exeter hosted by naturalist, cameraman and TV presenter, Simon King, and was super proud of her prize, some Zeiss binoculars! This is the second consecutive year that Hannah Sophia has won this competition and we are extremely proud of her.



Another Hannah acts ice-cream advisor to Raymond Blanc



We were thrilled to hear this lovely story about Hannah in Lower 4 who enjoyed a wonderful trip to Raymond Blanc's Cookery Academy in half term. After an afternoon in the kitchen learning all manner of things, Hannah was a little disappointed not to have met the man himself! However, it all turned out perfectly in the end when, during evening service, he emerged from the kitchen to greet all his guests. On doing this, he took an instant liking to Hannah, taking her by the hand to the kitchen, introducing her to his head chef and others working there that evening, feeding her different ice creams (asking her for her honest opinion on them) and then made her a special pudding, even serving it to the table for which she thanked him beautifully in French!

He is very keen for her to return, as is she, so another trip is planned next year!

Calling all budding geographers!

We are excited to be running the RGS 'Young Geographer of the Year competition' again and the topic this year is: 'Where can Geography take you?'. The Geography department will be running their own internal competition and entries are due in by Monday 1 October. Students can also send their entries directly to the RGS.

The competition is open to all year groups. Please see the website below for details and exact requirements.

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/young-geographer-of-the-year/>

There is also an opportunity to take part in the Geographical Association Physical Geography Photo Competition and entries are now open. The theme of this year's competition is 'Wonderful physical geography'. Check out the website for more details and information about how to submit entries. And please bear in mind that the deadline is Monday 30 September.

https://www.geography.org.uk/Announcements-and-updates/2019-physical-geography-photo-competition?utm_source=GA+newsletter&utm_campaign=d82c37c8d8-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_06_20_08_11&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ea49f5d646-d82c37c8d8-395147953



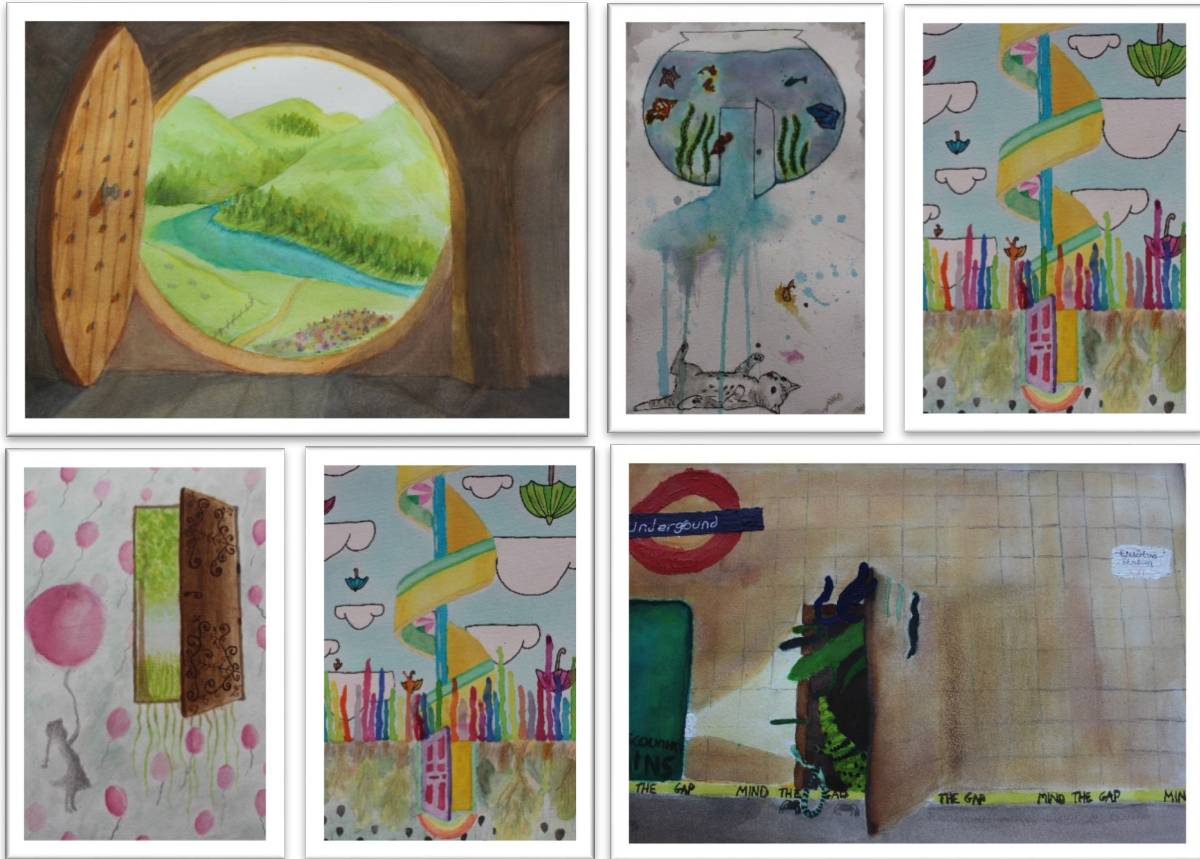
Coming up ... Pre-Prep Sports Day

Pre-Prep Sports day will take place next Wednesday 26 June on Leebourne Lawn here at school, starting at 2pm.

Girls will be taking part in a variety of fun races in their houses, including the Turtle and Spoon relay, The Rubber Duck race and the great Maynard Steeplechase... not forgetting the parents' fancy dress obstacle race. It promises to be a fun and super enjoyable afternoon!

And, finally, another of our gorgeous art collages!

The Upper 4 girls have been looking at surreal artists and studied two point perspective. They imaginatively combined their skills to create a view through an open door. We hope you like the finished product!



Have a lovely weekend!



Sarah Dunn
Headmistress