

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

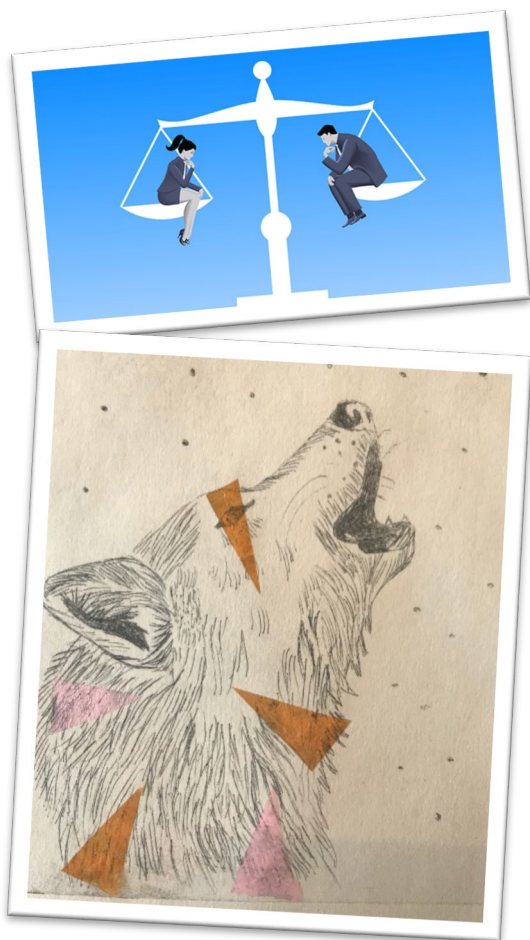
24 May 2019

A school without students always feels rather odd and whilst the pupils are now on half term, the staff are hard at it today taking part in a development day, preparing and planning for the busy few weeks and months ahead. It feels strangely eerie having empty classrooms and corridors although there are a few GCSE and A-Level students still here using the quiet library to revise and sitting today's exams which, at least, adds some normality to an otherwise almost silent building.

On which note, I must again commend all of the Upper 5s and Upper 6s who have made it through to the end of another busy week of public examinations. Today marks the half way point for the very vast majority of the girls sitting GCSEs which must be somewhat of a relief to them. To everyone, I would say that it is vital to use half term to recharge the batteries and enjoy a little down time. Your health is as important as revision, so please don't lose track of this and, dare I say it, remember that a daily blast of exercise does the world of good! Never more than now is it most important to bear in mind that old adage 'healthy body, healthy mind' and this, too, will apply to all of those in the Senior School and Sixth Form who will return after half term to sit their internal exams.

I must also extend my congratulations to all our younger musicians who put on such incredible performances at Wednesday's Midsummer Music Concert. It was a completely joyous, fun occasion and a wonderful celebration of the very many talents lower down in the school. As such, I look forward to seeing them in many future performances. My thanks also to Miss Blackwell, Mrs Smith and all the other members of staff for their invaluable help in organising this musical highlight.





I so wish everyone could witness our superb Sixth Form assemblies on a Thursday. They are always insightful, thought provoking, well presented and sometimes very funny, on a whole host of topics including climate change, plastic pollution, sustainable foods and even the value of sharks! This week was no exception and got us all thinking about gender equality - on both sides. Well done, Sixth Form. You are a true inspiration!

Finally, I make no apologies that a large part of this newsletter is devoted to a celebration of the enormous creativity within the Art Department. We rarely are afforded the chance to display such an eclectic array of designs and mediums but I felt that, with this week being somewhat quieter than normal (exams!), this was too good an opportunity to miss! We also look forward to inviting all parents to the GCSE and A-level Art Exhibition which will coincide with the Summer Garden Party we are hosting on Thursday 27 June. Your invitations will be in the post imminently but please do save the date in the meantime.

Have a super half term and on to the week's news!

Lower Four girls enjoy the Festival of Chemistry

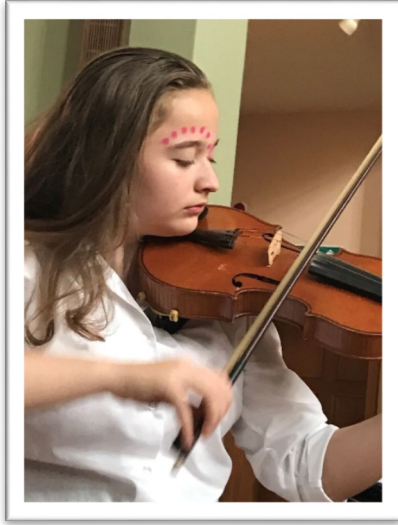
On Wednesday 15 May four Lower Four students, together with Mr MacDonald, travelled to Bristol University for the Festival of Chemistry. Organised by the Royal Society of Chemists and supported by the Salters charity, this is an event that has taken place for many years.



Congratulations to Emma, Lilly, Eleanor and Emma who immersed themselves so fully in the two main activities for the day consisting, firstly, of the Salters Challenge which required some careful experimenting and analysis of clues to identify the criminal in a murder. The second challenge was the investigation set by the university that required the creation and analysis of a UV spectrum of some organic molecules. The girls had to use some hugely expensive equipment to carry out their analysis and very much enjoyed the chance to work in full scale university laboratories.

We also enjoyed lunch in a sculpture garden and the challenge of finding the car at the end of the day. They have some really big multi-storey carparks in Bristol!

Fabulous and fun Midsummer Music Evening



The Midsummer Music Evening is perhaps the concert that is most enjoyed by many of the school staff. To see so many girls involved, supporting each other, having fun and taking pride in their work is a real delight. Alongside an array of talented soloists and the wonderful Middle School Choir, we were treated to a performance of 'The Greatest Showman' by the Maynard Concert Orchestra. To see so many musicians, some as young as Year 4, work together on such a challenging piece was very impressive.

The concert ended with each Upper 3, Lower 4 and Upper 4 class performing the song of their choice. With slick dance moves, instrumental backing and hearty singing everyone entered into the spirit of the evening and performed to the very best of their ability. Well done everyone!

Junior UKMT Mathematical Challenge 2019

This year's Junior Maths Challenge involving the Upper 3 and Lower 4 has been a great success, leading to some very exciting results. Susanna gained the best result in Upper 3, whilst Olivia and Megan in Lower 4 gained gold certificates and qualified for further rounds of the competition; Olivia is to take part in the Kangaroo round and Megan's score (best in school) was so high that she is to sit the prestigious Olympiad paper next month.

Congratulations to all who gained awards and good luck to Megan and Olivia on 11 June!

Gold:

Lower 4: Olivia (Kangaroo qualifier), Megan (Best in school, Olympiad qualifier)

Silver:

Lower 4: Ariadne, Mara, Ciara, Rowena, Eleanor

Upper 3: Maya, Susanna (Best in year)

Bronze:

Lower 4: Katie, Sophia, Emma, Lilly, Emma

Upper 3: Emma, Grace, Isabel, Arian, Kristina, Liberty, India

Japanese design concepts in Year 5

Year 5 have been studying Notan design in their art lessons and have created these beautiful pieces which represent an art form known as 'expanding the square'.

Notan is a Japanese design concept involving the play and placement of light and dark as they are placed next to the other in art - the interaction between a positive (light) and a negative (dark) space.





Budding David Attenboroughs in Year 4

Year 4 have been outside enjoying the fine weather learning about animals, where they live and how they survive. The girls had great fun exploring the different habitats on Leeborne and looking for different organisms. They found some interesting mini beasts to observe in their magnifying boxes and then did a quick sketch before releasing them back.

Year 2s consider survival tactics on a desert island

The Year 2's topic this term is 'Under the Sea' and earlier this week they enjoyed a fabulous PSHE lesson with their Year 4 Buddies in which the girls considered what things they might need on a desert island and how they would survive. Together they came up with some resourceful ideas for useful items including a water purifier, sun-cream, a torch, clothes, a fishing rod and a kayak! The Year 2s were excited to visit the Year 4s in their classroom, and especially to say hello to lovely Nula.



SPORT NEWS

Catherine Fraser Football Tournament



The annual Catherine Fraser Memorial Football Tournament is always a sporting fixture that is very close to our hearts and it was an honour to take a team of girls up to the university to compete in this hotly-contested event.

The team gelled together superbly and there was some wonderful displays of footwork with us progressing through to the Quarter Finals following a win, two draws and a narrow 1-0 loss in the group stages. Unfortunately, they came up against a physically strong and more experienced West Exe side and, although they battled well, they lost 3-0.

Mr Loosemore reported back that the girls were a joy to coach, playing some lovely football at times whilst maintaining a great sense of fun and character!

Swimming successes

We have enjoyed some super swimming performances in the past couple of weeks, proving The Maynard to be quite the tough competition! In our annual swimming gala last Wednesday against Exeter School the Under 12, 13 and 14 squads competed in a really closely contested match, with only one point separating the two schools going in to the final race. Annoyingly, we just missed out on victory but special mention must go to the Under 12 team who were winners in every race! On top of this, both Emma and Jess also set competition records!

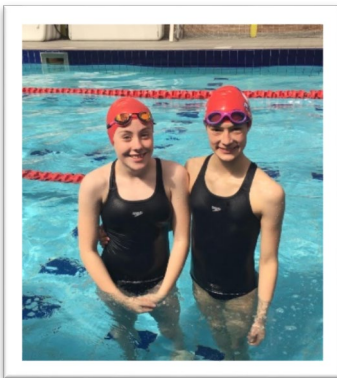
This was followed up by another hugely exciting gala versus Queens College, Taunton on Monday which we won convincingly on a score of 141- 118.

We certainly have some excellent swimmers across the age groups and a wonderful team spirit, too, so well done to all of those involved!



Swim England South West - Regional Championships

Emma Declerck and Jessica Fraser in Upper 3 competed at last weekend's Regional Swimming Championships with both posting some excellent results and bagging themselves a number of 'personal bests' in the process. The South West is one of the most competitive regions for swimming in the country so to achieve a clutch of 5th and 6th places between them is absolutely brilliant and they can be deservedly proud of their achievements. Well done, girls!



Excellent results at the Blundell's Prep Schools Athletics

Congratulations to all the Junior School girls who last Friday competed at the Blundell's Prep Schools Athletics competition in the Minor (Under 9) and Junior (Under 11) teams. There were some outstanding individual and team performances across the track and field events, leading to their excellent final team positions.

The Under 9 Team were placed overall 1st whilst the Under 11s Team took 3rd in their respective team



events. Combining these scores with the Under 13 team (who placed 5th in their age group) led to an overall position of joint 2nd for the Maynard girls, alongside Blundell's School, for the whole competition – a brilliant result for these young athletes! Well done, girls!



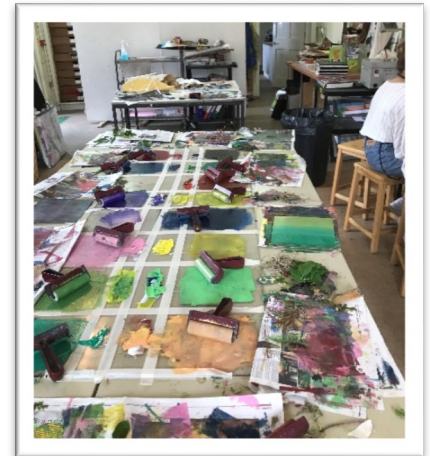
Happy Tuesday afternoons on the water

The Upper 5 to Upper 6 Tuesday Afternoon Activities sessions are proving very popular now that the sun is shining and the weather has warmed up. Several of them are enjoying the delights of The Quay whilst others have opted for more land-based opportunities such as aerobics, tennis, rounders, yoga or the luxury of a personal trainer in the new Health & Fitness Suite. We just had to share this photo with you as it depicts the vast array of activities on offer thanks to the wonderful place where we live! Where would we be without Devon?

NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

Lower 5 enjoy all-day Print Workshop

Last Saturday, the Lower 5 art groups came into school to take part in an all-day Printmaking Workshop. Simon Ripley from Double Elephant brought a huge selection of different forms of printmaking including screen prints, etchings, linocuts and collagraphs, to show the vast amount of possibilities in this art form. The girls got stuck in with alacrity and each student produced a selection of monoprints, collagraphs (both relief and intaglio) and even a drypoint etching. The students made their relief prints with card and a variety of textures, including cut-outs, string, ferns and corrugated card. Using a Perspex sheet on which to etch out their drawings with drypoint tools, they then inked up and polished the plates, finally running them through the printing press. Everyone had an incredibly productive and creative day and they have all got some lovely work to add to their coursework portfolios.





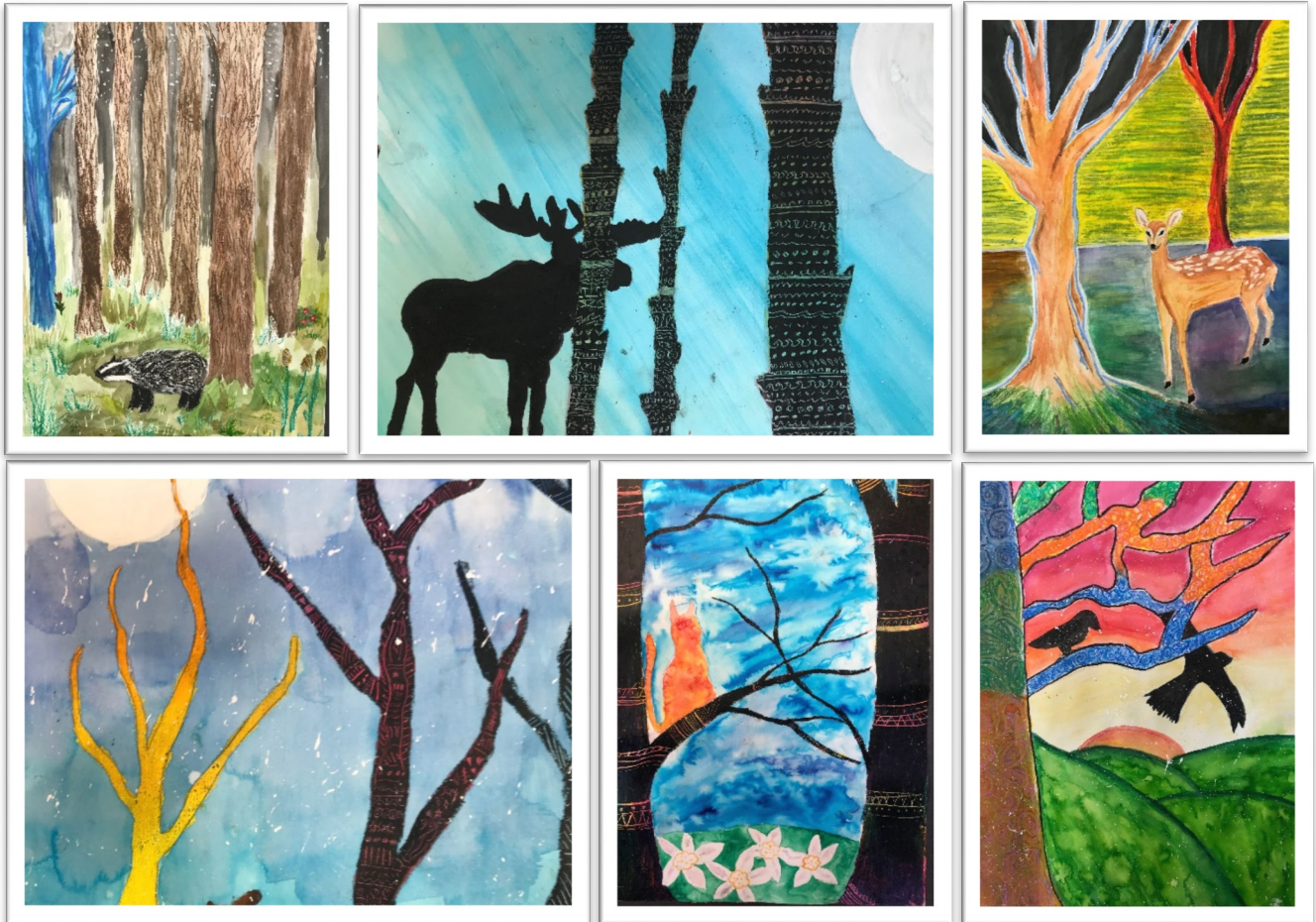
Lower 6 Life Drawing

Late last term and at the beginning of this, the Lower 6 A-level art students were given the opportunity to experiment with life drawing courtesy of a visiting model. It was unanimously agreed that these were invaluable sessions for practising technique, shading and light and a great opportunity to study the human form with outstanding results.



A combination of joy and colour in the Lower 4

Meanwhile, the Lower 4 students have created these stunning artworks influenced by US artist, Lindy Gaskill. Using the technique of wax resist and sgraffito, they produced some wonderfully vibrant and often very intricate pieces.



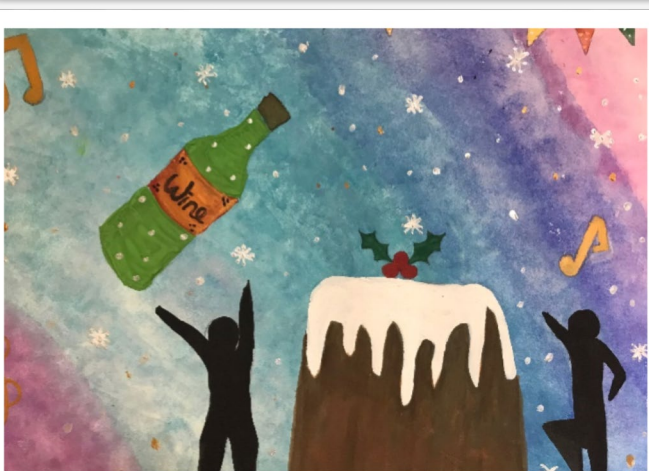
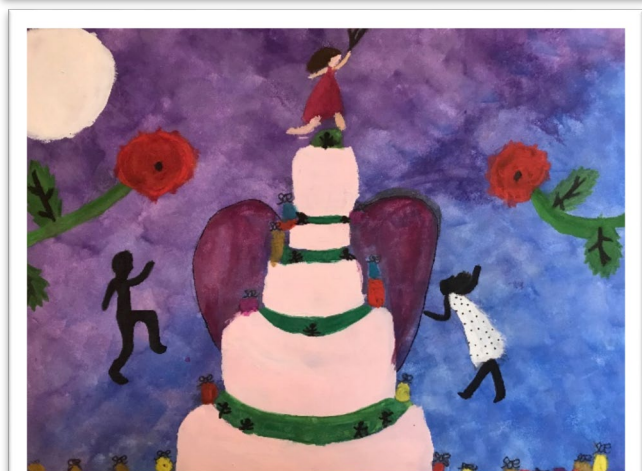
Matisse the inspiration for the Upper 3s

Likewise, the girls in Upper 3 have had immense fun working on their theme of 'Celebration'. Having studied the work of Henri Matisse, they then embarked on their own colourful A3 paintings depicting their own particular chosen celebration. We are loving the collaboration of colours, shapes and different themes.





THE
MAYNARD
SCHOOL



Have a lovely half term!

Sarah Dunn
Headmistress
