

# THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

14 February 2020

As we head into another stormy weekend, where once again we will need to batten down the hatches, at least we can look back on another brilliant half term. Following on from all of our awards last term, in the past 6 weeks we have become a finalist in the Exeter Living Awards, topped the Department for Education league tables and seen our students excelling in a vast range of domains.

We have also had a very busy last week: On Tuesday, which was the UN International Day of Women and Girls in Science, our Upper 3 and Lower 4 girls were lucky enough to be a part of a Chemistry and Geography extravaganza with Tim Harrison of Bristol University. Tim, who is quite a legend (and a local hero in Bristol!) kept the girls entertained with hydrogen explosions and dry ice 'showers', whilst explaining the science behind the pressing issue of climate change. It was wonderful to see the expressions on the faces of our Upper 3 and Lower 4 girls who were highly engaged in loud bangs, explosions, overflowing foaming reactions and fireballs. I did have a few nail biting moments, as this was all happening on the brand new floor of the Performing Arts Centre! Our students were joined by 60 visiting girls from local schools and it was great to welcome them into our auditorium to enjoy this STEM spectacle.

We opened our doors to other schools again on Wednesday evening when we hosted the Exeter University Law Society 'Mock Trial', with David Tyzack, a former Judge and Senior Lecturer at Exeter University. All of our girls from Upper 4 to Sixth Form had the opportunity to come along to find out about what it would be like to be a barrister questioning witnesses, examining evidence and delivering a verdict. This was the finale to a series of seminars run in school by a group of Exeter University Law students and the whole programme has been very well received by our budding lawyers.





Last night I thoroughly enjoyed the Sixth Form Masked Dance and was highly entertained and amused by the musical chairs and 'under and over' games. Only at The Maynard! The photo booth with its many different accessories also proved to be a great hit!

We waved 42 girls off on the much anticipated Ski Trip to the Austrian Alps this morning and my thanks to Mrs Davey, Miss York, Mrs Thorne, Miss Lavelle and Dr Rudling for spending the week with them - I am sure you will all have a fabulous time!

I hope you all have a super half term and the girls have a chance to recharge their batteries ready for an action packed second half of term.

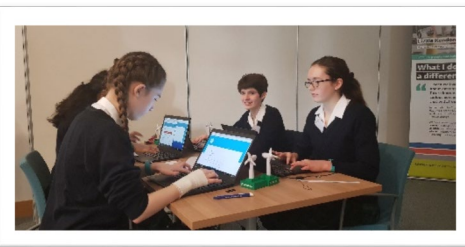
So on to this week's news.....

### Cyber Discovery Challenge

Last Saturday, our team of codebreakers, Hannah, Tess, Maliha and India competed in the second round of the GCHQ Cyber Discovery Challenge at the MET Office.

The girls took to their laptops to solve a series of online puzzles in the first co-ordinated event of this kind run by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), a part of GCHQ, pitting their cyber skills against hundreds of girls taking part in simultaneous contests across the UK. The local contests are part of the NCSC's CyberFirst Girls Competition, an annual event aimed at boosting interest in cyber security among females, who are currently under-represented in the industry. Nearly 12,000 girls have taken part in this year's contest.

The girls did brilliantly and are now through to the UK finals - huge congratulations!



### Get Caught Reading photo competition for World Book Day

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we are running a 'Get Caught Reading' photo competition. We would like your daughters to have a photo taken of themselves reading a book in an interesting place (or position!) and the best ones



will win prizes. The half term break might provide some great opportunities!

The photos should be emailed to Mrs Bean or Mrs Hourihan (Senior School) or Miss Lloyd (Junior School).

The closing date is Monday 2nd March and the winners will be announced on World Book Day, 5th March.

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### DEL F A1 Diploma in French studies for Judy!

What better news for a language teacher than to discover that one of their students has achieved a DELF (Diplôme d'Etudes en Langue Française) certificate - fabulous recognition from the French Ministry of Education for Spoken and Written comprehension and production of French language.

This is exactly what Mme Smith experienced earlier this week when Judy (Upper 4) came to proudly show off her A1 Diploma, testament to her very hard work over the past 12 months. Judy has studied independently for this qualification and attained an amazing 83%. What a fantastic achievement and one that we are very proud of!



Judy, who said she was 'ecstatic' about this performance, is now working towards her DELF A2 Diploma, which she is hoping to achieve by the end of next academic year. Best of luck with this new challenge, Judy!

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### Brilliant U14 and U15 Netball results...



Our U14 netballers were happy after some fabulous matches v Exeter School on Wednesday. The As played superbly winning 41-18 & playing some of the best netball we have seen them play this season. The Bs also worked hard and finished really strongly, winning 23-12.

The U15 teams also played some super matches with the As winning 26-20 with a very strong performance and the Bs narrowly losing 19-22 in a highly competitive match which could have gone either way. A great way to end the half term!

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### ...and more superstar netballers in the Junior School!

All of the girls in the Junior School, from Year 3 - Year 6 have been involved in competitive netball this week, ranging from the 4 aside introductory games in Year 3 to full 7 a side teams in Year 6. We have played Exeter Cathedral School, West Buckland, Stover and Plymouth College and all the girls have played with wonderful spirit and sportsGIRLship!

Our Year 5 teams played some lovely games against Exeter Cathedral School on Monday. The U10As played a combination of the ECS U10As and U11As, winning 15-9, while the U10Bs played against the ECS U11Bs losing 7-4, but coming back from being 7-0 down after the first half!

Year 6's matches on Wednesday afternoon were against Exeter Cathedral School and West Buckland - we fielded 4 full netball teams enabling all the girls in the year group to play. They played 6 games in total, with 5 convincing wins and 1 draw - some epic shooting from all of the teams showing that their daily break and lunchtime practice is paying off!



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### Monday Morning Body Pump

Our fabulous Body Pump class is held every Monday morning and is enjoyed by a whole cross section of the Maynard community - Upper 5 and 6th Form students, Senior & Junior School teachers and support staff from across the school - with more people joining each week! Great for well-being, bringing us all together and a fantastic start to the week!



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### Don't forget the Junior School Swimming Gala

The Inter-House Junior School Swimming Gala is taking place on Wednesday 26th February from 1.30pm - 3.30pm at Pyramids Pool, Exeter. Swimmers from Year 3 - Year 6 will be representing their houses in a range of races, and parents are all welcome to come along to support them!

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### Amazing achievements for Emma



Congratulations to Emma in Lower 4, who has been competing at the Devon County Swimming Championships during January and February. Emma achieved 12 qualifying times, placed herself for eight finals, was awarded Silver and Bronze medals for her back stroke races, came 4th in two races and gained a number of personal bests! She also achieved six South West regional qualifying times and six Belgian national qualifying times. Amazing - well done!

When she's not swimming you can find Emma on a climbing wall. She has already participated in two out of the four South West regional rounds of the BMC Youth Climbing Series and is currently placed 2nd. The top three climbers from each region get invited to the National finals at Sheffield. Although if this happens she will have some tough decisions to make as these are taking place during the same weekend as the Regional Swimming Championships!

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### Fun at the Zoo for Year 2!

Last Friday Year 2 spent an exciting day at Paignton Zoo to support their topic 'Animal Magic'. The girls enjoyed a session about habitats at the education centre, before spending the rest of the day exploring the zoo!



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### Learning about pitch in music

Year 2 have also been studying pitch in their music lessons this term. Here they are accompanying the increasingly higher verses of 'The prehistoric Animal Brigade' on the glockenspiels!



### Healthy Video Gaming

We would like to bring to your attention an opportunity for parents to learn more about healthy video gaming and screen time for their children. If you would like any support or advice in this area, you may like to attend the YMCA's 'Taming Gaming' session, being held at the Belmont Chapel, Exeter on Wednesday 4 March at 7pm. This evening is being led by Andy Robertson, a journalist for the BBC, The Guardian and The Telegraph and he is delivering an insightful session on how to guide children to healthy video gaming - full details can be found in the promotional flier attached.

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### Showstopping Mille-Feuille in GCSE Food & Nutrition

We just had to share some pictures of these beautiful Mille-Feuille made by our Lower 5 GCSE Food & Nutrition students earlier this week. The girls made their own flaky pastry and turned it into raspberry or passion fruit Mille-Feuille - delicious!



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Have a great half term!



Sarah Dunn  
Headmistress

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### Some Upcoming Events... Discovery Morning

We are holding our next Pre-Prep and Junior Discovery Morning on Saturday 7 March from 9.30am – 11.30pm, this time with a fabulous 'Wildlife Safari' theme! As you will know, our Discovery Mornings are open to all girls aged between 3 and 11, free of charge and extremely popular, with activities such as Art & Craft, Yoga, Dance, Forest School and Science experiments divided into different age groups.

To register, please visit [www.maynard.co.uk/discovery](http://www.maynard.co.uk/discovery) - and please tell your family and friends!



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### GSA Park Run

We are taking part in the GSA Park Run Initiative, tied in with Telegraph's *Girls Inspired* campaign throughout March and we would love as many students aged 14 and over to take part. Upper 3 and Lower 4 girls are also welcome but must be accompanied by a parent. You can take part at 9am on one Saturday or more throughout March - register & run for free via [www.parkrun.org.uk](http://www.parkrun.org.uk)





### Maynard's Got Talent

Maynard's Got Talent is back on Thursday 19 March from 6pm in the Performing Arts Centre. If you can sing, dance, play an instrument or tell a joke (or anything in-between!) then this is for you! Open to groups or individuals – you can sign up on the board outside Miss Dunn's office.

