

# THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

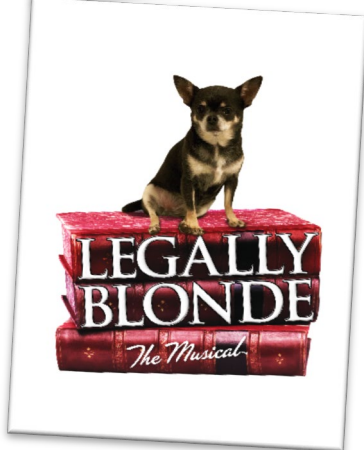
6 March 2020

I am so proud to say that our prowess in the sporting arena lives on and I must start by congratulating our Under 18 Hockey team for their brilliant performance at Tuesday's National Tier 4 Hockey Finals at the Olympic Park, where they finished sixth in a competition filled only with the very best teams from the entire country, including those with England players. This is a remarkable achievement and I really hope they are feeling justifiably proud of their gutsy and determined performances across all four of their pool games. Most unfortunately, their one loss to Bancroft's School put paid to their chances of a semi-final place but they must take some consolation that Bancroft's did eventually qualify through to the finals where they were only beaten by the same team that knocked us into second place during the Regional Finals a few weeks ago! So my huge congratulations to them all, not just for this fine performance but also for being such brilliant ambassadors for the school.

That same day, both the Under 15 and Under 14 Netball teams returned to school as the Area Champions in their respective age groups, having been undefeated in all five games of each tournament - again, huge congratulations to them and also to the Under 13 team who finished 3rd in their equivalent tournament. I think it is fair to say that we are continuing to punch well above our weight in the sports world and it is no coincidence that every newsletter is so full of sporting achievements from across the school. The fixtures diary is always crammed and every week there is so much going on from the Reception class right through to the very top, not forgetting the weekly fitness classes for all the staff!

World Book Day fever continues, following on from yesterday's dressing-up day in the Pre-Prep and Junior School. There were some absolutely stunning costumes - Mary Poppins, wicked witches, Dorotheas and Mary Poppins abounded and even Nula (the therapy dog) got into the spirit, dressed as Aslan from The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe!





Meanwhile, keeping to our beloved and quirky tradition, the Senior School and the Sixth Form have spent some considerable time these past few days meticulously dressing their form doors as covers to their favourite books and the Head Girl Team had great fun at lunchtime wandering around and judging them all. Believe me, picking an overall winner will be really difficult as the standard this year was higher than ever but all will be revealed on Monday.

Excitement is building with less than one week to go until curtain up on *Legally Blonde* at the Barnfield Theatre. With 163 girls involved it is a production of epic proportions and it's quite thrilling that all three shows across Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights have now very nearly sold out. I, for one, can't wait and I should just like to wish everyone involved the very best of luck for what promises to be yet another spectacular show. Break a leg, girls!

On a similar note, I am very much looking forward to tonight's MPA Quiz Night and am steeling myself for what is always a very competitive event. The big question being whether any of the staff teams will be able to win back the trophy they relinquished a couple of years ago but whatever happens, rest assured, it won't be for the lack of trying!

On to the week's news ...

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### Junior School Speech and Drama Showcase

Junior School pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 performed their speech and drama pieces to a full house in the Main School Hall yesterday. The girls are preparing for their LAMDA exams as well as the Devon Performing Arts Festival which is fast approaching.

It was wonderful to see the confidence of all the girls from those on the first steps of their performing experience, to those who are more used to "treading the boards". You can see the journey that the pupils will take as they move from their shorter poems in Year 3, through to lengthy memorised duologues by the time they are in Year 6.

A big thank you to Mrs Leonard and well done to all of the pupils involved.





### Frothy fairy potions in Reception

The Reception girls mixed up some magic ingredients to make frothy fairy potions this week. They read the recipe, mixed it up and recorded what they had done. It was lots of foamy fun.

### Year 2: Giraffes can dance!

In PSHE we have been learning the story Giraffes Can't Dance, about Gerald the Giraffe who doesn't believe that he can dance like the other animals... until he finds his own tune and confidence! In art the girls have painted these magnificent, dancing giraffes which make such a joyful display!



### Fun at Forest School continues

Year 3H thoroughly enjoyed their morning at Forest School last Friday. Mrs Davey showed everybody how to make a fire safely and how to spot frogspawn at this time of year. All the girls made a wooden pendant necklace and, of course, the toasted marshmallows dipped in melted chocolate were truly scrumptious!

### Print making in Year 4

Year 4 enjoyed a fun -packed morning of Print Making with Simon Ripley, a local artist from the Double Elephant Print Company. Using their upcoming Science theme of Habitats, the girls thought about animals in their natural environment and then made collagraphs by cutting out shapes onto cardboard and creating collagraph plates. They inked up using relief ink and printed them using a portable press. As you can see the results were amazing!



### Competitive Upper 3 Spelling Bee



Our super keen and talented Upper 3 (Year 7) Bees have finished foraging for French Spelling words this year. I have been very impressed by their enthusiasm and determination to be as accurate as possible. Through their fierce competitive spirit, the four winners have acquired 150 new words in their French repertoire, with a very vast majority being correctly spelt. This year, we have a tie at the top with two joint winners: Ruby T-M (Merchants) and Margot S (Goldsmiths) having each only misspelt one word out of 50 on their last round, closely followed by Larissa K (Haberdashers) and Yemi A (Armourers).

The girls have deservedly won some French language games as a prize, which they hopefully will find useful to keep their budding talent going whilst playing with friends and family. Well done to the four winners but to all the other Year 7 girls who took part in earlier stages too.

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### World Book Day fun and festivities

There was a real buzz in the library and around the school on World Book Day yesterday, and winners of all competitions are soon to be announced! In the Main School corridors there were some fantastic creations emerging as the girls decorated their classroom doors as book covers. In the library we had book quote badge making, voting for favourite photos in our Get Caught Reading competition, and a Who's Behind the Book competition with photos of staff members holding books in front of their faces. Lively debates took place about both competitions, and there were some really lovely, clever photos for Get Caught Reading, and ingenious clues about who was behind the book if you looked closely enough!

Mrs Bean and Mrs Hourihan are very grateful for all of the wonderful photos that parents and girls sent in for Get Caught Reading. We hope you and your daughters enjoyed the activity as much as we enjoyed seeing the photos!

Our celebrations continue next Thursday, 12th March, with Crediton Community Bookshop's book fair in the library for Year 5 and above. If your daughter would like to buy a book, please send some money in with her. Books will be £6 each or 2 for £10. Please support this wonderful bookshop, owned by the local community in Crediton, whose volunteers undertake valuable education outreach activities in local schools.

Please note that World Book Day tokens must be used by 29th March.





### Junior School Netball Results

On Monday, the Years 3 and 4 Netball Club hosted St. Leonard's Primary School to play some fun "Bee Netball" matches; lots was learned from the experience by both sides during this coaching match, and there were a few dynamic and springy boys to contend with which was good for our players! As ever the highlight for St. Leonard's was not only the matches but our tasty match tea treats afterwards!

Wednesday saw all of Year 6 playing in quadrangular netball fixtures against St. Peter's Prep, Exeter Cathedral School and Exeter School - our girls were superb with the A and B teams completely dominating all of their matches and both teams going undefeated throughout the afternoon. The girls played so nicely, showing what lovely skills they have whilst at the same time being really good sportswomen and I (Mrs Fabian) was really very proud of them all.

A mixed team of Under 13 then played St. Peter's Prep - made up of a combination of Upper 3 and Lower 4 players, with special thanks to Honey and Izzy for stepping in to play last minute. Again we played superbly, dominating the court with a high level of skill and shooting accuracy on display. The final score was 20-6 and a really well deserved victory for this team who have made so much progress this year.

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### Ballet & Modern Dance Showcase

We are very much looking forward to hosting the Ballet and Modern Dance Showcase on Monday (9 March) in the Performing Arts Centre. The girls from Reception to Year 6 will be performing their ballet lesson work and Reception to Year 4 their modern dance, and we also have a bonus solo performance to look forward to from lovely Hayley in Year 6 who is a Junior Associate in the Royal Ballet.

The show will start at 2pm and no tickets are required although parents of dancers should already have informed us that they are attending by returning their costume slips.



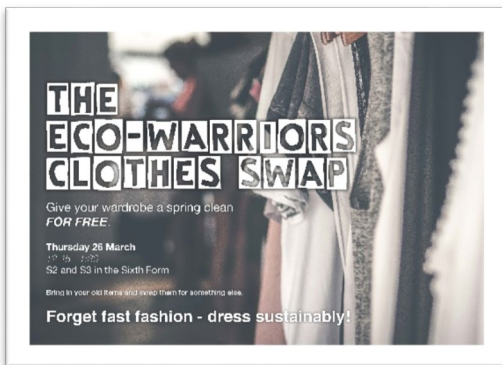


### Good luck to Katie

We wish the best of luck to Katie H (Lower 5) who is travelling to Loughborough this weekend to compete in the British and Inter Counties Cross Country Championships. In addition to this, she is also off to Liverpool next weekend for the English Schools Cross Country Championships, having qualified with a superb victory in the Devon Championships at Stover in January. Good luck, Katie!

### Huge sum raised in response to Australia bushfire appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Australia bushfire appeal by purchasing a Koala bracelet. In total, the Mufti day and sales of the bracelets raised £772.91 which has been donated to the Australian Animal Rescue Co-operative.



### Coming Up: Eco Warriors clothes swap

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### Tickets on sale for Maynard's Got Talent

The ever popular Maynard's Got Talent returns on Thursday 19 March (in the Performing Arts Centre from 7pm) and entries are beginning to flood in for what always proves to be a fabulously entertaining night out. Please do come along to support the South Africa Sports Tour girls who use this event as one of their pivotal fundraisers to bring in sufficient money to cover their pledge to sponsor a young South African girl's entire education - without which she wouldn't be able to go to school at all.

Tickets will be on sale from School Reception on Monday and cost £5 per adult and £3 for a student, representing incredible value for such a fun evening. And, be warned, last year's event sold out very quickly, so book your tickets early to ensure a place!





THE  
MAYNARD  
SCHOOL

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Have a great weekend!

Sarah Dunn  
Headmistress

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