

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



REFLECTIONS FROM THE HEAD

Time to reflect is such an important but rarely affordable commodity in our busy world, particularly as we enter what is often one of the busiest half terms in the run up to Christmas and GCSE/Sixth Form choices. We took that precious time at our remembrance service this morning, gathering together to hear the words of Amanda Gorman who reminds us that in times of loss, separation or challenge there is also an opportunity to become stronger, to grow and also to hope. Below is a section from the poem I read: 'The Miracle of Morning'

'We ignite not in the light, but in lack thereof,
For it in loss that we truly learn to love.
In this chaos, we will discover clarity.
In suffering, we must find solidarity.
For it's our grief that gives us gratitude,
Shows us how to find hope, if we ever lost it.
So ensure that this ache wasn't endured in vain:
Do not ignore the pain. Give it purpose. Use it.'

As always, the girls participated in our armistice day service with great respect and solemnity. I am grateful to all who participated – Dora for the playing last post,

her trumpet ringing out over the double courts, and Grace and for laying the wreath on our lost soldier in the Rose Garden.

I trust you have all had the opportunity to pause and reflect for those two minutes, two minutes of silence that has sometimes been known as the greatest sound on radio – the nation stopping, unified in a window of time recalling loved ones lost or their own experiences of conflict. Our prayers are with all those currently experiencing conflict across the world, particularly in Ukraine, and those who grieve for the passing of someone they loved.





Anti-Bullying Week

Don't forget that on Monday we will be mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week with our own odd sock day in the Senior School (not Pre-Prep or Junior School). Please help us celebrate diversity and individuality by letting your daughters come to school in either odd socks or hosiery!

Children in Need

We are looking forward to next Friday's Children in Need and this will be a mufti day with 'spots' as our theme. So please do come to school dressed in dotty home clothes in return for a donation of £2! Likewise, our Heads of Houses are devising the usual madness during the lunchtime to help fundraise in a fun fashion for such a worthy cause and, s ever, Pudsey ears will be for sale (£2). The Junior School will also be holding a colouring competition from Monday onwards with a 50p entry fee (and the winning Pudsey entries will be announced on Friday). Our thanks in advance for your support with all our charitable endeavours!



The Kindness Box

The Junior School Council have been busy catching people being kind. They have set up a kindness box and the girls can put a note in it to say thank you to someone who was kind to them. We then pull the names out of the box and say a big well done in assembly. The box is usually overflowing with messages and even the teachers get a mention! Nula also had a note and was rather overwhelmed by the whole thing!



Reception

The Reception class has been learning about Thailand as part of their One World Week celebrations and had a great time playing the popular children's game, Mon Som Pa. This is very similar to an English game called Duck, Duck, Goose and the girls loved it! They have even also learned a few Thai words, too!



Year 1

What a fabulous tea party the girls enjoyed with Mrs Gregory on Tuesday! Cake, juice and a lot of chatter - they all behaved impeccably and we certainly all learned a lot about all manner of things from annoying sibling sleeping habits to their pets' funny traits! It was wonderful!



Year 2

The girls had an amazing first week back! As part of One World Week, they have been learning all about Greece. They practiced saying greetings in Greek, learned to count up to five, wrote their names in Greek, made Greek cookies and tasted Greek food whilst discussing the products and flavours.



Year 3

Nǐ hǎo! We have really enjoyed 'One World Week' in Year 3, with a particular focus on China. The girls learnt some words in Mandarin including simple greetings, colours and numbers. We played a traditional Chinese game of 'Cat and Mouse' involving lots of chasing and squealing, and also had great fun playing China's national sport, ping pong. The story of Grandfather Tang led us to puzzle over some tricky animal Tangrams, and there have been some yummy edible treats from around the world, too! It has been wonderful to embrace different cultural experiences, and the real highlight has been seeing the girls teaching each other, sharing their own expert knowledge from around the world.



Year 4

In our Science learning about food and eating, Year 4 decided to put their knowledge to the test by creating their own version of the digestive system. Using a plastic bag to represent the stomach and some tights to represent the small intestine, the girls took it in turns to take each stage of the digestive system and model what was happening. As they watched the banana and biscuits travel through their homemade 'body' there was a lot of laughter, as well as some squeamish squeals along the way!

The girls have also been celebrating One World Week and chose Italy as their country. On Monday, we collected our boarding passes and got on a flight in our classroom to Naples, Italy! We sat in the cockpit and experienced the flight landing before using our iPads to research more about our country and create a fact file. We also very much enjoyed today's banquet and our thanks to everyone who brought something Italian in for us all to enjoy!



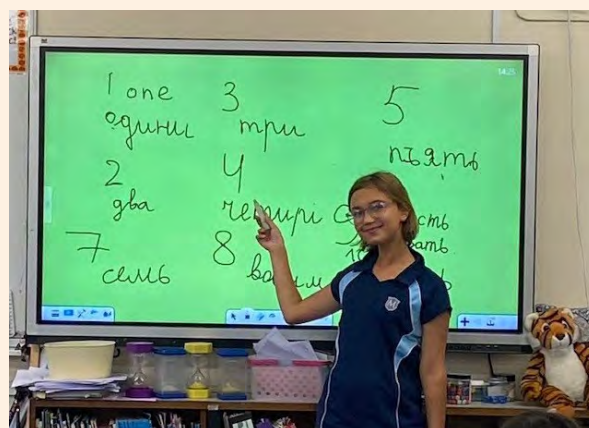
Year 5

At the end of last half term, the Year 2 and their buddies in Year 5 had a great time making and decorating paper pumpkins together.



In this last week, the Year 5s have started studying the Anglo-Saxon era and have been learning about the clothing of the time. They demonstrated their new knowledge by 'dressing' paper figures in crepe paper Anglo-Saxon outfits.

As part of our One World Week, we've also had great fun learning to count to ten in Russian, under the expert instruction of Diana!



Year 6

The Year 6 girls have been making a 3D model of the heart in their Science lessons this week. They have thoroughly immersed themselves in learning the names of the different chambers and how the circulatory system works with oxygenated and deoxygenated blood.

We have also been learning about Sweden as part of One World Week. The girls have tried cinnamon rolls and different foods whilst learning how to say different phrases including the days of the week. In addition, they have looked at the Swedish education system and how the temperatures across the country vary in the winter particularly.

They also learnt a traditional song which is sung at Midsummer around a large pole (similar to a maypole) decorated with seven different types of wildflowers. Although many songs are usually sung at such a ceremony, the most popular is one about little frogs with some actions that the Year 6 very much enjoyed! Our thanks to Anaya for being such an amazing midsummer pole!



House Obstacle Competition

The Junior School girls had an absolute blast yesterday in the inaugural 'House Obstacle' Competition on the new trim trail. As ever, Mrs Fabian had carefully devised a course to suit all abilities with various options to take on the trickier elements which, when it came to the monkey bars, was certainly a huge relief for some! All the girls from Year 3 to Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and, as we go to print, we await to hear the results but it certainly looked like yet another super close Maynard competition!



Under 10 Hockey

Year 5 played Exeter Cathedral School in a mixed ability hockey tournament on Monday, with all the year group involved. It was a fabulous afternoon of hockey with lots of skills on display ... we can't not mention the fact that **Esmé** scored a double hattrick with three goals in one game and four in another! Another superb performance from the fabulous fives!



Prior to this, the Under 10A team had attended an area hockey tournament hosted by Exeter School on the day before we broke up for half term and in the horrendously wet weather! Luckily for us the tournament went ahead as the team were superb! They won all of their games and came away as champions of the tournament! Equally, we were very proud of them for the way they approached the whole experience and they, too, should be super proud of themselves!



Under 11 Hockey

Year 6 played some super hockey matches in the sunshine on Wednesday against Exeter Cathedral School with all the girls from the year group playing. It was a great opportunity to see the progress made by them all - lots of great play, goals being scored and happy players and supporting dogs!



Modern Foreign Language news

All our Upper 4 students have been involved in the GCHQ National Language Competition this week. The girls have been put in teams and have tackled in total 62 different challenges (as one of 1578 teams participating) during their three language lessons this week, as well as independently at lunchtime and after school.

Challenges such as these are a prime way in which to raise awareness about the variety of high-profile language jobs available and to realise that languages are at the heart of everything we do.

The Director of GCHQ said "To be good at keeping the country safe, we have to understand different cultures, we have to be able to speak different languages, and GCHQ is packed full of people with those sorts of skills. Some of them will have learnt it at university and at school, some of them will have grown up learning and speaking a particular language, many of them have lots of languages, some are deep specialists in one.

So, we see great value in people who can speak languages and we're hoping that, with this competition, it will spark your interest too. It will make you think more about maybe the skills you have already as a linguist. Or maybe it will make you want to explore learning and get involved in new languages, either as part of your studies or alongside them."

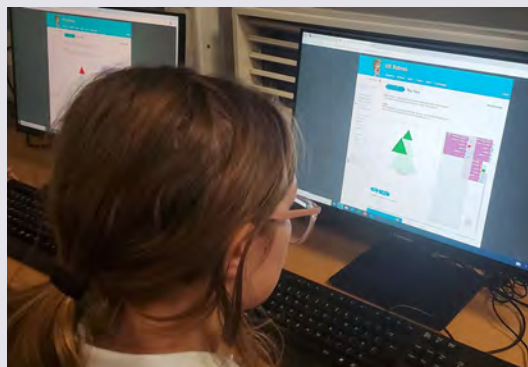


The Bebras Computing Challenge

Our Computer Scientists have this week been challenging themselves with the international Bebras Computing Challenge competition. This demanding competition tests students' informatics, computational thinking and computer fluency.

All students from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 4 will be taking part during their IT lessons. The students must code automated maze runners, calculate the energy in biscuits, the half-lives of radioactive isotopes and even encode images.

If you are brave enough maybe have a go yourself?
The QR code to the quiz is here:



CyberCenturion update from Mrs Mulhauser

The CyberCenturion IX team this year consists of three Upper 5 students, **Hannah Sophia**, **India**, and **Tess**. The competition is a cybersecurity competition where teams of up to four students from ages 14-18 years old, participate in three rounds of increasing difficulty, each lasting six hours. During those six hours the teams need to inspect different linux operating systems and make them more secure. This can include removing unauthorised users, checking for malware, installing antivirus software, removing unauthorised programs, updating software and configuring the firewall, to name just a few of the required tasks. Teams also have to answer a series of forensic questions in each round that can involve quite a bit of detective work within the system. You gain points for making the systems more secure, but can lose them if you make it worse!

The first round was in October and over half term the girls took time out of their exam revision to participate in the second round. In the first round they scored 85% of the available points which was a great start. The preliminary results from the second round placed them fifth in their senior all-girls team section. They are also in the top 16% of the whole leader board which has teams competing from all over the UK and British Overseas Territories. This is a wonderful result so far and means they have everything to play for in the final round in December. The combined scores from each round will then determine who goes through to the finals next year.

As a team leader it was great to see how well they worked well together, encouraging each other and troubleshooting the various difficulties they encountered. We would also like to say thank you to Mr Friendship and Joe for the loan of laptops and for their help in configuring them ready for the competition.



Art Club – a massive hit!

Our Wednesday lunchtime Art Club is proving a tremendous hit with well over 20 Upper 3 students enjoying the opportunity to extend their creativity under the watchful guidance of our Lower 6 artists, **Hattie** and **Isa**. It's a wonderfully collaborative and encouraging session, quite often with a backdrop of loud music(!), and we are looking forward to seeing the fruits of their labour! Huge thanks to Hattie and Isa for running this super-popular club!



Classics Podcast

The Classical Association will be releasing a series of podcasts over the coming weeks so do keep an eye out for these. They will be particularly useful for those studying the subject at A-level and for those considering their GCSE options. There are other stories that might also appeal to girls in the younger year groups: <https://classicalassociation.org/podcast/>

Matilda's winning story has been recorded

Earlier this year, we announced that **Matilda** (Lower 4) was runner-up in the Classical Association's Stephen Fry Creative Writing Competition and can now proudly share with you the recording of her story. It's well worth a listen and huge congratulations to Matilda for such a stunning piece of work!

[Click here to open in Spotify.](#)



EPIC #4 ELEMENTS - AESCHYLUS AND THE BLACK JEWELS OF HADES

Listen to this episode from The Classics Podcast on Spotify. We're staying in the Underworld with Matilda's mythology-inspired short story: Aeschylus and the Black Jewels of Hades. Matilda was the Runner-Up in the 'Junior' (aged 11 and under) category and her story is narrated by Caroline Lawrence, bestselling author of The Roman Mysteries and 2009 Classical Association Prize Winner. EPIC: Modern Writers, Ancient Stories is a compilation of short stories written by entrants in the 2022 Classical Association Creative Writing Competition, inspired by Stephen Fry's trilogy Mythos, Heroes and Troy.

Careers

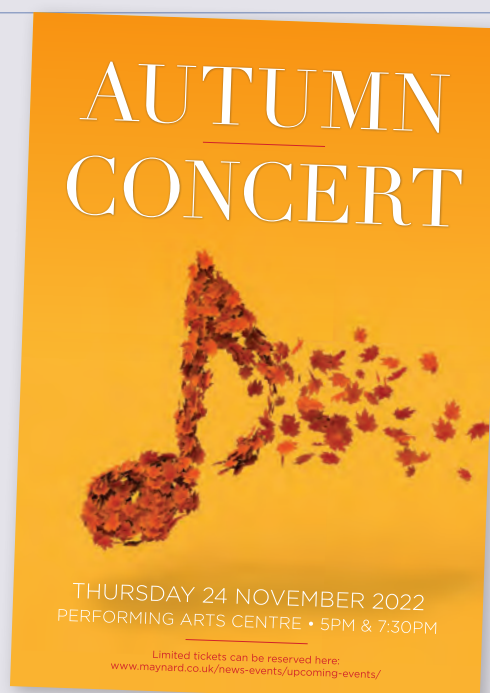
This week has been Green Careers Week and we know that many of our students are very interested in careers that link to the climate and the environment. We would highly recommend, therefore, that you take a look at the resources on this link (<https://greencareersweek.com/>) to explore a wonderful selection of information ranging from the UK Space Agency, Careers in Nature, the MET Office to careers in the Natural History Museum and WWF.

Just a reminder that the school website (Academic/UCAS & Careers) has a range of Careers linked information including apprenticeship parents' podcasts, the Unitaster Guide to University For Parents 2022-23 and information about courses & events. It is updated weekly and so is worth checking regularly - <https://www.maynard.co.uk/academic-information/ucas-careers/>



Don't miss the upcoming Autumn Concert!

This is always a stunning celebration of our exceptional musical talent featuring all the school choirs and ensembles with an enormous variety of music from Bach to Gary Barlow. With 123 performers taking part, we have taken the decision to perform our one hour show twice - at 5pm and 7.30pm - so there is no limit on the number of friends and family who may like to come along. Pre-concert drinks and refreshments will be available half an hour before each performance in the Main School Hall, so do join us for a glass of something and a nibble!





National Children's Orchestra

Congratulations to **Zoe** (viola, Upper 4) who has been accepted in to the National Children's Orchestra and we look forward to hearing all about her experiences!

A busy Festive Music calendar

As we gear up for Christmas, there is a plethora of exciting events to look forward and proceedings will kick off on **Monday 28 November** when the Middle School Choir will be performing at the **Lord Mayor's Carol Service** in Exeter Cathedral. The Chamber Choir will, once again, be performing at the **Darts Farm Indulgence Evening** on **Wednesday 30 November** which is always a stunning evening and certainly one to put in the diary. Following that, we have our own **Carol Service** at St Matt's on **Wednesday 14 December** at 7pm, another wonderfully festive occasion not to be missed, and the Chamber Choir will be back out performing at the 'Light up a Life' service for Hospiscare at Exeter Cathedral on **Monday 19 December** at 6.45pm.



Daisy Pulls it Off

It's countdown to yet another of our fabulous productions and the cast of 'Daisy Pulls it Off' are enjoying a hectic calendar of rehearsals in readiness. These shows do always sell out so, if you haven't done so already, please don't leave it too late to purchase your tickets. Taking place in the Performing Arts Centre, there will be four performances in total - Wednesday 30 November @ 7pm, Thursday 1 December @ 7pm, Friday 2 December @ 5pm and, again, at 7.45pm. You can purchase your tickets here: <https://www.maynard.co.uk/school-life/drama/>

Prepare to be wowed!

SENIOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION OF

**DAISY
PULLS IT OFF**

PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
 Wednesday 30 November 7pm
 Thursday 1 December 7pm
 Friday 2 December 5pm and 7.45pm

Buy your tickets here: www.maynard.co.uk/school-life/drama/

Cricket

Enormous congratulations to **Rebecca** who has been selected for the Under 13 Devon girls cricket team for the 2022/23 season!



Cross Country

A super well done to all our athletes who competed in the Exeter Schools Area Round of the National Schools Cross Country at St Luke's CofE School on Wednesday. They should all be congratulated on their determination, digging in with great tenacity when the going got tough! We wish the best of luck to **Issy, Mollie, Izzy, Lotte, Lara, Rose, Margot** and **Lola** who have all qualified through to the next round of the competition and will be representing the Exeter District schools in the meet against East Devon schools at Blundell's on Thursday 24 November.



Equestrian

Half term was a busy one for the Equestrian Team with **Xanthe** competing in the NAF Five Star BE90 3 day event at Bicton on the first weekend. It was Xanthe and her horse's, Bea, first experience of the long format with dressage on Thursday, roads and tracks, steeplechase and cross country on Saturday and show jumping on Sunday. Xanthe and Bea finished 49th in a hugely competitive class of over 100 riders.

Last weekend saw five members of the team head to Pontispool for the NSEA Eventer Challenge. This was an extremely challenging competition with natural obstacles such as water, banks and ditches which saw over half of the riders in each class getting eliminated, and so to make it all the way around the course was a great achievement. **Anaya, Esther** and **Poppy** did exactly this and ended with Poppy being placed 10th in the 90cm Class and Esther finishing in 8th place in the 1m Class. Congratulations to them all!





Swimming

Congratulations to **Emma** (Upper 5) who swam in last weekend's Winter South West Regional Championships at Millfield. These is a fiercely competitive event and just to qualify is more than impressive but Emma swam some exceptional times in all three of her races (50m, 100m and 200m backstroke) and she should be extremely proud of herself.

Hockey - Under 14 success

Our Under 14 Hockey team enjoyed a great tournament on Tuesday when they travelled to Plymouth for the T2 County Hockey Tournament. Winning all bar one of their matches meant they finished 2nd overall and, in doing so, qualified for the Regional Tournament next week. This was an awesome success and huge congratulations to them all!



Fundraising for Cancer Research UK

Mrs Dersley is very nearly there with her incredible skipping challenge to complete 100 skips every day for a whole month as a fundraiser for Cancer Research UK. Unfortunately, an injury has momentarily stopped play with just 500 to go! But as soon as this is healed, we will see her back out in the Rose Garden during the lunch break, skipping away. A huge thank you to those who have already supported her already, and if anyone else would like to donate, please go to [Mrs Dersley's Just Giving page](#)



WORDS of the Week

FORMIDABLE (adjective): Inspiring fear or respect through impressive size, strength or ability.

*Bertie was a **formidable** hamster, able to strike fear into his fellow rodents by a simple glance.*

FORMIDABLE

French: Impressionnant
 German: Beeindruckend
 Latin: Formidabilis
 Spanish: Formidable

INSINUATE (verb): To suggest or hint at something in an indirect, often unpleasant way.

*I didn't like it when Joan **insinuated** that I had bought the birthday cake rather than made it with my own effort and skill.*

INSINUATE

French: Insinuer
 German: Etwas andeuten
 Latin: Significo
 Spanish: Insinuar

Now You Know!

Talking technology with Matilda (Lower 6)

Tangible Tech - How Do Touchscreens Work?

We all use touchscreens in our daily lives, but have you ever wondered how they work? Put simply, the computer detects a change in the electricity at the part of the screen where you touch, but it's science - it's always got to be more complicated than that...

There are two main types of touchscreen: capacitive and resistive. Capacitive touchscreens are used in more expensive technology, like your smartphones, tablets and laptops. Indium tin oxide - a conductive material - coats the glass screen (which is an insulator), allowing an even voltage to be applied over the whole screen. When your fingertip (skin is a conductive material!) makes contact, a current flows between your finger and the screen, changing the voltage, which is sensed by the computer, allowing it to respond to the contact, for example by clicking a button.

Resistive touchscreens, on the other hand, are used in supermarket self-checkouts, ATMs and in other public devices as they're less high-tech so easier (and cheaper) to produce. They work by using two layers of material - often plastic and glass - coated with indium tin oxide, again to conduct the electricity. By touching the screen, you push the top layer against the bottom layer, which changes the voltage. The computer knows where the voltage has changed, and voilà: your receipt is being printed, thank you for shopping with us today!

Glossary

Conductive (adj.): allows charge to flow, so can be used to carry an electric current. Copper is conductive so it can be used in wires in electric circuits.

Insulator (n.): an object that does not allow charge to flow, so does not conduct electricity. Plastic is an insulator, so it is used to coat wires to prevent people getting an electric shock when they touch them.

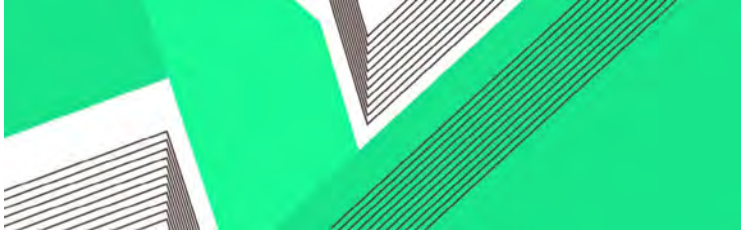
Voltage (n.): the potential difference of a circuit; a measure of the difference in the amount of electrical energy from two parts of a circuit. The voltage of a circuit in a car is much bigger than the voltage of a circuit in a toy because a car battery is much more powerful!

Helena and Matilda: Diabetes Awareness Month

November is Diabetes Awareness Month, and the 14th is World Diabetes Awareness Day: a time for people to educate themselves about this life-threatening, chronic illness which affects 4.9 million people in the UK. Of those, 400,000 people and 29,000 young people suffer from type 1 diabetes, which is harder to treat and affects the person for their entire life (from diagnosis). Out of the two types of diabetes, young people are more commonly affected by type 1 which is why we are choosing to focus on this.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the first time insulin was injected into a human - a major step forward in the ability to treat type 1 diabetes - but research into supporting and improving the quality of life for people with diabetes can always be improved. Consequently, we are raising awareness this month by having a stall at the Maynard Christmas Fair selling crocheted and knitted items including cute animals, hats, hearts and more - come and find us to learn more about diabetes and help support the Junior Diabetes Research Foundation! If you are unable to make it to the fair and want to support the cause or learn more about diabetes, please check out the JDRF website at <https://jdrf.org.uk/>.





Welcome back Maynardians, to a wonderful new term!

As a member of Young Enterprise, I can happily announce that we've nearly finished our first batch of products.

Over the holidays we made loads of draught excluders, and we now need to start filling them with soft insulating materials: such as pillow insides, old teddies and soft packaging. If your household has any of these items lying around, please bring them to the front desk and donate them to the Young Enterprise team. This would help tremendously and support our principal theme of sustainability.

Also don't forget to continue to bring all your unwanted clothing, taking care to wash them first!

Thank you!

Harriet Tomlins (:



Have a lovely weekend!