



ST H G I G H I G H

WINTER
2023



THE
MAYNARD
SCHOOL
EXETER

FOREWORD

Welcome to our all-new singing and dancing termly news publication and we hope you enjoying reminiscing over all the successes and fun we have encountered since the start of the academic year back in September. It has, as ever, been another extraordinarily busy term and for every achievement remembered here, there are undoubtedly many, many more that will have had enormous individual impact but which may not have made it onto our radar!

To everyone, I just want to reiterate my heartfelt applause and thanks (in equal measure) for the sheer brilliance, kindness and courage of our entire community – students, staff, parents, alumnae and our much wider Maynard family. What a term it has been!

LIZ GREGORY



WE ARE NETWORKING

We are working hard to update our LinkedIn page and are making great strides into accumulating more followers – if you do use this platform, please be sure to follow us and, if you have daughters who attended the school, please can you also ask them to add The Maynard School to the education section under personal profile (or make sure it is updated to the latest one – it has a logo).



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UNVELING THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The first major milestone of the term saw us unveiling the new Strategic Develop Plan. It was wonderful to share our vision and ambitions for the next five years and our thanks to all those who joined us. For those of you may not have seen the printed document, you can catch up on all the plans here: www.maynard.co.uk/information/our-vision-for-the-future/



GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE REVIEW



Our latest Good Schools Guide review went public at the beginning of December and we are absolutely delighted with the wonderful portrayal of our school and its community. What better way to sum us all up than, “This is a school that both parents and girls fall head over heels in love with”? You can read

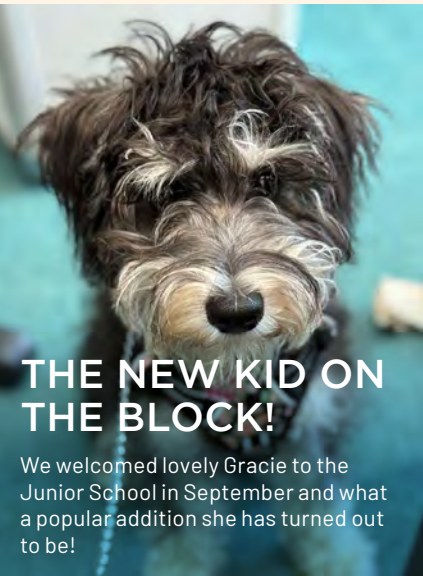
the full report here: <https://www.maynard.co.uk/good-schools-guide/>



TUNE INTO OUR SOCIALS!

As ever, our Marketing team has been hard at work in their attempts to keep our community sufficiently entertained over the Christmas period! Expect plenty of cuteness and fun, a splash of utter madness and some absolutely ‘out of this world’ Festive Bangers ... plus much, much more! And, if you’re not on social media, all of this will be available to see on our website here: www.maynard.co.uk/news-events/school-news/

PRE-PREP & JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK!

We welcomed lovely Gracie to the Junior School in September and what a popular addition she has turned out to be!



REINDEER RACES

They're under starter's orders and they are off! Our lovely little reindeers were on flying form last week and we are pleased to say that they all finished safe, sound and just a little giggly!



GORGEOUS PRE-PREP CHRISTMAS SHOW

The Pre-Prep put on a delightful Christmas Show once again, bringing home the holiday spirit with a heartwarming tale of snowmen, robins, snowflakes and more.



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN...

Words cannot describe the excitement levels when Father Christmas dropped in at the Pre-Prep and Junior School on the last day of term. Just wonderful!

Settling in

Our lovely new cohort of Reception girls took no time at all to settle into Maynard life when they joined us in September and Mrs Riley has enjoyed a lovely term with them all, culminating in all the usual Christmas excitement.



Music lessons

Music lessons with Mrs Smith have been an absolute highlight and the girls have had great fun sampling an array of instruments this term. They have truly impressed with their willingness to listen to instructions without getting too carried away!



Healthy Food

To celebrate the end of their first half term at school, our gorgeous Reception class made a delicious fruit salad as part of their learning about the importance of a healthy diet. They chopped everything entirely independently and, once finished, didn't hold back in sampling the fruits of their labour (no pun intended)!



ICT lessons

We are extremely lucky to have the resources in our Pre-Prep to start teaching ICT skills from an early age and the Year 1s are certainly lapping up the opportunity to learn some digital skills!

Forest School fun

The weekly sessions in Forest School are always such a highlight. From pumpkin carving, craft making, marshmallow roasting and mad dancing, there's always lots to look forward to!



Trip to the Tiverton Toy Museum

We absolutely love a good trip ... and our Year 2 girls were treated to a fabulous day out at the Tiverton Toy Museum in early October. They devoured the opportunity to dress up like little Victorians and play with all the toys through the ages, culminating in a fascinating discussion (with very astute observations) about how they have changed over the years!



Christmas at Killerton

What a fabulous trip the girls in Year 1 had to Killerton on the last Wednesday of term! They were super excited to explore all the Christmas delights, starting with a musical trail through the gardens followed by a tour through the house, spotting little owls. A truly magical way to finish the term!



Ballet with Mrs Barlow

Ballet has continued to be a big hit with Mrs Barlow, fondly known as our very own Mary Poppins.

International Day of the Girl

We also used the opportunity to celebrate the International Day of the Girl and show our support for females around the world seeking gender equality and having to fight for their rights.



CHRISTMAS P.E.

Fairy Fabian is quite possibly the most sparkly of all the Maynard fairies and the first to kick off the Christmas festivities. Queen of dance and glitter, with a splash of her favourite fairy dust she can turn the whole class into little elves in an instance!



Kents Cavern

The girls enjoyed a most informative and fun trip to Kent's Cavern earlier this term to support their learning about the Stone Age.



Stonehenge Artworks

How lucky are our Year 3 girls to have such an acclaimed artist as their class teacher? As an Academician with the South West Academy of Art, he is super equipped to help the girls produce some fantastic art, not least these wonderful Stonehenge pieces!



Year 5 buddy fun

The girls have had such a lovely time with their Year5 buddies this term and the show of friendship and sisterly love is really rather wonderful. They've enjoyed cards, games, lots of playground fun, a Christmas quiz and generally solidified some very firm friendships!



Christmas Stockings

A creative term culminated in the Year 3s hand stitching their beautiful stocking designs under the watchful guidance from Mr Hoile. They all turned out absolutely beautifully and we hope will prove to be a lovely keepsake for many more Christmases to come!



First Aid training

Our wonderful Year 4s became fully fledged first aiders back in October with a full morning of training, culminating with them all achieving the Heartstart Award.



Digestive Systems

One of the most memorable lessons this term must have been the experiment the girls conducted to learn all about the digestive system. A gooey mess of tights (the intestines), chopped banana and digestive biscuits (food) and orange juice (stomach acid) had the girls both enthralled and repulsed in equal measure!



Buddies with Reception

Throughout this term, the girls in Year 4 have been acting as the perfect role models to the girls in the Reception Class! It was just wonderful to see them all being so encouraging to their little friends, not least when soaking up the festive spirit whilst making gorgeous Christmas crowns.



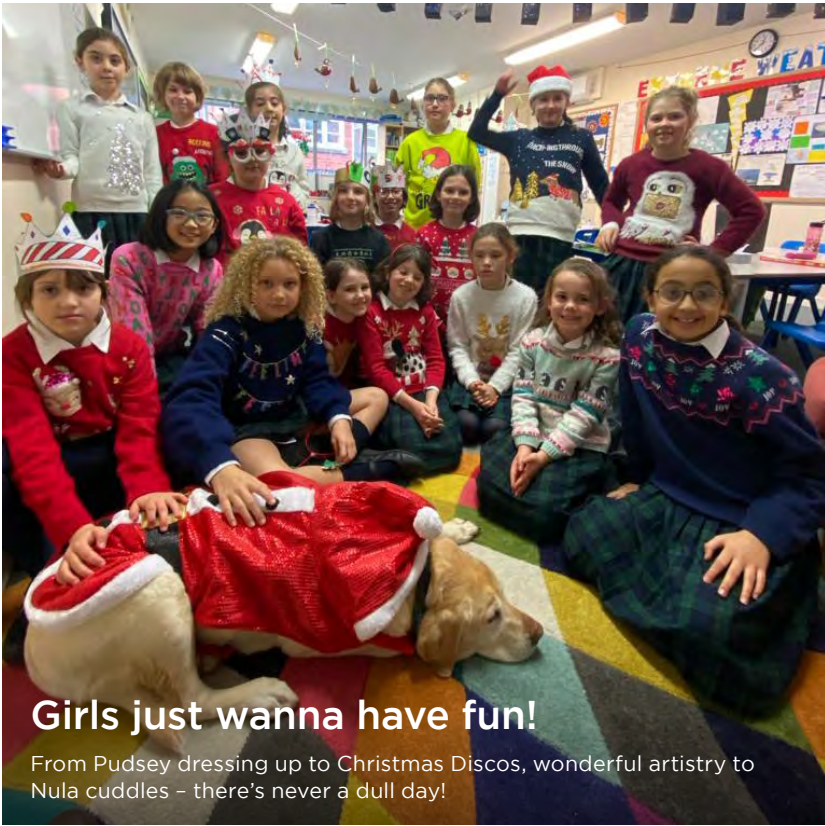
Geography trip to the Cathedral

Earlier in December the Year 4s were treated to a Geography trip to Exeter Cathedral where they participated in a workshop using grid references for both inside and outside the building. On their travels, they also discussed the history of Cathedral and the different types of religion. They finished the day making gorgeous celestial maps with a professional artist.



Girls just wanna have fun!

From Pudsey dressing up to Christmas Discos, wonderful artistry to Nula cuddles – there's never a dull day!





Just so... Impressive!

We have been learning about the Just So Stories as one of our topics this term, exploring their features and then writing own Kipling-esque animal stories. Great fun was had presenting all of these to Mrs Gregory in her office one afternoon. Needless to say, she was justifiably wowed!



Christmas Maths

Mr Holland, our Junior School Governor, set the stage for Christmas when he dropped in to teach some Christmas Maths fun to the group. The results were simply spectacular with gorgeous stars and massive baubles to firmly put us all in the Christmas spirit.



The Affirmation Mirror

As part of our PSHE, we have been learning about affirmations - encouraging statements that we can say to ourselves which can help us sometimes to feel positive and ready for the day ahead. The girls have written their own affirmations which we have displayed around our Affirmation Mirror in our classrooms, and which the girls have been learning to use. Well done Year 5s!"



The Christmas Dance

We also had a lot of fun choreographing an impressive Christmas Dance during our lessons with the amazing Mrs Fabian. You can watch the whole thing through here: <https://youtu.be/XJWwTBc4CjA>

For the love of Art!

We all love the Tregear Art Rooms! Not only are they glorious architecturally with their huge windows and vast swathes of Virginia creeper outside, but they're a hub of enormous creativity ... as testified by our lovely Year 6s who have been producing some stunning Pop Art!

Not ones for a silent classroom, they were last spotted merrily painting away whilst singing the Peppa Pig theme tune, apparently to stimulate the creative juices!



Blood Smoothies

Our Year 6s have really enjoyed using the Senior School Science laboratories this term. As an example of some of their scientific learning so far, they had a great time whipping up some blood smoothies to learn more about the human circulatory system. The sweets represented the red blood cells, the marshmallows were the white blood cells, some cereal hoops were added to represent platelets and orange juice acted as the plasma. Genius!



Singing at The Lodge

The girls did a terrific job of entertaining the residents at The Lodge Care Home and certainly spread some Christmas cheer with lots of songs and carols!



Gymnastics Club

The Year 6s have thoroughly enjoyed combing with some of the Upper 3s for their weekly gymnastics club! Without doubt, their fitness and technique continue to make huge improvements and a very well done to them all!

Ballet

It was wonderful to welcome parents to our Open Ballet sessions – we hope you enjoyed the shows!



Halloween Dances

Blood, gore and so much more was the order of the day for this year's Halloween Dances which, as ever, were brilliantly charismatic and full of fun!



Hockey

All the girls in Years 3-6 have had a stab at representing either The Maynard or their Houses in friendly internal matches or games against other schools. Without fail, they have been quite simply the absolute best ambassadors, always giving it their all and forever with a smile on their faces. We couldn't be prouder!



House Hockey

The tightly contested Junior School House Hockey competitions have now come to a close! Despite rain, snow and hail, the girls have so enjoyed their training sessions this hockey season and have performed superbly with lots of support from wonderful parents, too.

In all three competitions, everyone represented their houses with pride, showing how well they work together and the improvement they have made in their hockey. Very well done to them all!

- Final placings:
- 1st place = Armourers
 - 2nd place = Merchants
 - 3rd place = Goldsmiths
 - 4th place = Haberdashers



Christmas Modern Dances



MUSIC SHOWCASE

We were treated to some enchanting performances at our first Music Showcase of the year. For many this is their first time in front of a live audience and they all stepped up and performed beautifully! Bravo!



SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

A ‘Wild’ Upper 3 induction

The entire Upper 3 (Year 7) and their tutor team had a fabulous day at Wildwood at the start of term on their annual teambuilding day, organised to welcome all our lovely new students. The girls embraced it all! They got lost in the maze; zoomed down the drop slide; navigated their way around Escot with their compass and map; and learned how to build a fire. It was wonderful to see them all getting to know each other. What a fun and friendly year group our Upper 3s shaped up to be from the very outset of their Senior School journey!



MFL trip to Barcelona

The trip to Barcelona at the start of the October half term was an enormous success and our huge thanks to Mrs Stanton and Mrs Dent for facilitating such a cultural highlight. The girls enjoyed a fascinating tour of Gaudi’s Sagrada Familia, a sightseeing cable car ride up Montjuïc and the delights of the Picasso Museum ... not to mention lots of shopping at every opportunity!



‘Changing Spaces’ Conference

Our A-level Geographers attended a fascinating conference about Changing Spaces at Plymouth University in November. They completed a workshop in creating and designing zero carbon communities with an emphasis on the Culm Garden Village near Cullompton. They also attended a hugely interesting lecture on media representations on place and how it affect our perception of place.

Emily Hauser Book Launch: “Ancient Love Stories”

Award-winning Classicist, Emily Hauser, gave a wonderful reading of her new book, “Ancient Love Stories”, and spoke about Sappho and the Sacred Band of Thebes in her talk here at school back in September. It was wonderful to hear such a range of stories about love and the different types of relationships. The girls were particularly enthusiastic to hear her views on female writers in antiquity; it was also exciting to see so many keen Classicists in one place!



UK Mathematical Olympiad for Girls

Congratulations to Megan and Helena (Upper 6) and to Joey (Lower 6) who all gained a distinction in the UK Mathematical Olympiad for Girls. Joey also qualified for the British Olympiad follow-on round as one of only a thousand students out of over 10,000 entries.

Isa (Upper 6), Maya and India (Lower 6) also gained merits and, in total, almost 75% of our Sixth Form mathematicians were awarded a certificate. Superb results!



Lower 4 trip to Buckland Abbey

The Lower 4s were treated to a very festive visit to Buckland Abbey, the former home of Sir Francis Drake. They learned all about how the Tudors celebrated Christmas as well as, of course, key facts about Drake himself and his circumnavigation of the globe.

Undoubtedly, the highlight for many was seeing Mr Tabb and Dr Keen dress in Tudor costume!



‘Secret Me’ winners announced

There was much scratching of heads as our judges battled to separate the entries in our ‘Secret Me’ art competition for Upper 3 to Upper 4!

It really was the toughest of tasks but, when push came to shove, they all unanimously agreed that Molly’s quirky and creative depiction of her alter ego was the stand-out champion!



Promoting careers in Science

Dr Michelle Bailey and Almudena Visser Velez, who are co-leaders of the Exeter University Women in Physics network, visited the school in November to deliver a presentation to our GCSE and A-level students. The aim of the presentation was to encourage more young women to study Physics, promote careers in Science and highlight the merits of studying Science subjects at university. Dr Michelle Bailey spoke about her role within the Women in Physics network and the Institute of Physics as well as her work as a research fellow in Biophysics. Almudena Visser Velez then spoke about her educational journey from school to becoming a final Year



Physics with Astrophysics PhD student. Given that attendance to the event was optional, the completely packed classroom was a good indicator of the desire of a significant proportional of our students to pursue careers in Physics and STEM fields, which is something that we are very proud of.

UK Space Design Competition

On Saturday 25th November, Darcey, Jesse, Konnie and Grace (from the Upper 6) and Izzie, Nandipa and Victoria (from the Lower 6) participated in the regional round of the UK Space Design Competition at Exeter University. The students worked in a team with two other students to design and cost a ‘maintenance facility for repairing mining equipment on the dark side of the Moon’ and then presented their pitch to a group of judges. The Maynard students did incredibly well, collaborating with other students and utilising their Physics and Maths skills. In a field of highly prestigious schools, from as far afield as South Wales, our students finished in second place overall, narrowly missing out on a place at the National Finals at Imperial College. We are very proud of their achievement.

Also, some of these students also attended our Sixth Form Physics trip to the Norman Lockyer Observatory a couple of night earlier to do some stargazing. Two Physics trips in one week - go Maynard!



National Language Competition 2023

After an outstanding effort from all our teams, and despite not winning nationally, we were delighted to announce that our top -scoring Upper 4 team in the GCHQ's National Language Competition 2023 was the 'Bright Delightful Scorpions' (aka Holly, Harriett, Niamh and Lisa).

There was fierce competition with more than 500 schools from across the UK vying to put their language skills to the test whilst pulling out all the stops to crack those codes and solve numerous language puzzles.



Congratulations to Lilly

Massive congratulations to Lilly (Upper 6) who received the Blue Boy Award from the St. John's Hospital Educational Foundation at the beginning of December.

"She has sought out every opportunity to advocate for the vulnerable; whether helping at school or raising awareness and funds, she has worked tirelessly. Amongst other achievements, she had an article published for International Women's Day; is a National Portrait Gallery Youth Forum member; has organised a variety of fundraisers, including raising money for the victims of earthquakes in Turkey and Syria; and has helped start and run a Diversity and Inclusion Club, organising with others the Maynard School Speak Out Conference."

Upper 4 Merry Maths-ness

Proving that there is Maths behind everything, our Upper 4 mathematicians constructed some lovely snowflakes in their lessons this week! News of this comes on the back of this fun fact:

All snowflakes contain six sides or points owing to the way in which they form. The molecules on ice crystals join to one another in a hexagonal structure, an arrangement which allows water molecules – each with one oxygen and two hydrogen atoms – to form together in the most efficient way.



Top scoring Sparx mathematicians

Congratulations to this term's top Sparx scorers who were awarded their certificates in an assembly at the end of term. Some of their results have been absolutely staggering and many have outperformed the national average by enormous margins! Tigs in Upper 4 has completely blown us away, scoring 14,951 points to win the 'Best in School' title for the term – a very, very well done to her and to everyone else for such solid performances!



Teatime Concert

Our first Teatime Concert of the academic year took place back in October and was another tremendous success, showcasing the individual talents of our musicians in Upper 3 right through to the Upper 6. For some, this was their first performance in front of a live audience and yet they were all superb. Roll on the next one!



A fabulous Autumn Concert

What a truly stunning evening this was! From Rick Astley to Tchaikovsky ballet music, the Autumn Concert last month certainly had it all! How wonderful it was to see in excess of 100 of our super talented students performing and enjoying their music making.



The Snow Queen

On Wednesday 22 November our Lower 4 play, 'The Snow Queen' took place in the Main School Hall. Directed by Mrs Briscoe with a team of Sixth form helpers, it was an absolute delight! We had lively sprites and storytellers, witches both wicked and good, robbers, adventurous children, our Snow Queen and even a hapless reindeer! The hall looked superb in the round; the whole evening really got us into some early Christmas spirit. Well done to all of the students involved.



Royal Albert Hall debuts

Enormous congratulations to Esme (Year 6), Taryn, Molly, Jasmine and Catherine (all Upper 3) who can now proudly boast of having performed to a mass audience in the Royal Albert Hall! What an experience to be a part of September's Theatretrain production of 'We're Going to Change the World', comprising a staggering 30 musical numbers on top of wonderful dance and drama.

It truly was a spectacle of marathon proportions involving not just one afternoon performance, but two! Bravo to you all and we hope you made lots of happy memories!



Zoe selected for 'Inspire' programme

Enormous congratulations to Zoe (Lower 5) who in September was selected onto The National Youth Orchestra's 'Inspire' programme, giving her access to incredible hands-on workshops and residencies across the country. This is a dream come true for Zoe who absolutely loves her music and recently gained a Distinction for her Grade 8 Viola. We wish her every success and happiness on this new venture!



Christmas Carol Service



What a stunning way to bring the curtain down on a term of spectacular musical entertainment! Over 100 students and staff performed an abundance of carols and songs to a packed St Matt's church, bringing out the festive spirit in each and everyone one of us!





Girls Go Gold

We took 12 of our GCSE and A-level PE students, as well as our Sports Scholars, to the Abbey School in Reading for the annual Girls Go Gold Conference. It began with a talk from Dame Katherine Grainger, Olympic Gold Medallist, leaving the girls feeling truly inspired from the very start! Masterclasses were led by Netball World Cup silver medallist Fran Williams, Susannah Townsend MBE in hockey, Gail Emms MBE for badminton, to name a few. What lucky girls! Talks involved Dr Emma Ross discussing the impact of the menstrual cycle on sporting performance, GB Gymnast Kelly Simm presenting about her experiences in the sport, as well as Sarah Hunter CBE, the most capped women's England rugby player. The day finished with a Q&A session with the one and only Dame Denise Lewis. The girls were well and truly inspired in what was a great day for all!

Cross Country success

Huge congratulations to all our runners who represented The Maynard at the recent cross country meets held at Blundell's (but also beautifully organised by our amazing PE team). Following some excellent performances at the Exeter vs East Devon event, we are delighted to report that Freya, Bea and Emily in Upper 3, Izzy in Lower 4 and Rose and Izzy in Lower 5 have all made it through to the next round in January! A very well done to them all!



Success at the Netball residential

Our Under 14 and Under 13 teams enjoyed a fabulous few days of sport, friendship, adventure and laughter at the GSA Conover Hall netball residential in late September. This stunning Elizabethan manor house in Shropshire provided the perfect backdrop to a competitive couple of days of netball fixtures culminating in a silver medal for the Under 13s in their plate final, whilst the Under 14 team finished a superb sixth in a very hot cup contest for their age-group.

And how proud we are to boast that the combined efforts of both teams put us in overall 15th place out of a whopping 42 teams – a massive achievement and enormous congratulations to all those involved!



Hockey Highlights

Congratulations to our Under 13 team who have been on absolute fire this term and have won all their friendly matches as well as qualifying for the Regional Hockey Finals at Clifton College in March!

We've seen a lot of success across all the year groups generally this term and it's safe to say that The Maynard's fighting spirit certainly lives on!



Football

Under 13 and Under 15 teams continue to make enormous progress on the pitch and they both made it through to third round of the FA Small School Cup this term. We are absolutely thrilled to be putting forward such competitive teams in this relatively new sport to The Maynard and there is much more to come!



Netball

Our Under 16s have also been on top form, most recently qualifying for the Regional Finals in the National Schools Competition where they will represent Devon next February. This comes after some terrific games in the recent County Round where they finished as the second best team in the entire county – what a fabulous achievement!

Our Under 15s have also been incredible, culminating in a convincing victory (56-18) against Exeter School in the Independent Schools Netball Cup in late November.



Tennis

Our Under 13 Tennis team posted a Maynard first when taking third place in the Regional Finals, missing out on the National Finals by just one place. A very well done to them!



Chocolate modelling

Our thanks to Dr Rodgers, a current parent, for providing the most wonderful chocolate workshop for our lucky Lower 5 Food & Nutrition students. The girls learned all about the different types of chocolate and modelling mediums before having a go at creating their own roses ... which they did absolutely brilliantly.



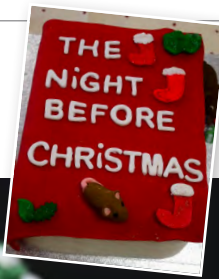
Upper 3 Chocolate logs

The Upper 3s have surpassed even their own expectations with these delicious-looking chocolate logs.



Upper 4 Christmas Cake Exhibition

As ever, the Upper 4 Christmas cakes were a sight to behold!



Ten Tors training has started in earnest!

As ever, Mr Tabb has kick-started our Ten Tors training in earnest and our teams have been out over several weekends practising their navigation and braving all of Dartmoor's best elements. We have an incredible reputation in the Ten Tors Challenge, year-on-year recording a 100% completion rate and it is no wonder why! Our teams are always beautifully prepared and fit as fleas (not to mention enormously determined) for which we must also thank our army of volunteers who are so instrumental in this success.



Dog Walking Club

Our Friday lunchtime Dog Walking Club is always super popular and, whatever the weather, there is always an abundance of dogs on hand to take the girls for a stroll down to the park!



Slime flies when you're having fun!

Mrs Wood always runs a mega-exciting lunchtime Science Club and the Lower 4s had a great time earlier this term mastering the art of slime making. It's a whole lot harder than you would imagine, with exact measurements required on top of a rigorous and lengthy kneading process.

Such precision, however, only heightens the sense of success and squeals of delight resounded across the lab as one by one a perfect slime was born!



NEIGHBOURLY LOVE

In September, our friends and neighbours in The Lodge Care Home were treated to a wonderful afternoon of entertainment courtesy of our talented Year 4s! Under the musical direction of Mrs Smith, who we are so incredibly lucky to have as our Head of Junior School Music, the girls sang a beautiful array of musical numbers to a large and appreciative audience. Many were cajoled into tapping their toes and the afternoon ended to rapturous applause.

Our wonderful Year 6s had their turn to spread a little festive cheer when popping over the road in the last week of term to sing plentiful carols and Christmas songs to our lovely neighbours.

Community outreach such as this is core to our Maynard values and it always brings us so much pleasure – the girls were positively bouncing after their performances! Well done and a mighty thank you to you all!

Sharing our professional expertise

We're so proud to be partnering with some of our local schools and sharing our professional expertise wherever we can. Huge thanks to the lovely Miss Cousins who is wholeheartedly epitomising our charitable ethos by heading over to St Leonard's Primary School in her free time to take a PE lesson with their Year 3s every Monday! You can tell by the smile on her face that she's loving it ... and word on the street is that feelings are very mutual!



Exeter Foodbank donations

Our thanks to everyone who responded to our Foodbank appeal. We were delighted to be able to send off just so many donations.



The Lord Mayor's Carol Concert

The Middle School Choir and Chamber Choir were delighted to lend their voices to the Lord Mayor's Carol Service in Exeter Cathedral earlier this month. They were the only school chosen to represent the city and provided some memorable festive music for the congregation, alongside the Exeter Railway Band. The service was raising money for the Lord Mayor's chosen charity, Force Cancer Charity.







The usual madness accompanied our annual fundraising for this incredibly worthy cause. This year's antics saw the teachers dressed up as different bears – Kung-Fu Panda Bear, Fairy Bear, Paddington bear, Monster Bear etc – and competing to see who could do the most burpees in 30 seconds!



Merry Christmas

*and we look forward to seeing you all again
in the new year!*



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MADE FOR GIRLS AGE 4 - 18