



# MAYFIELD MESSENGER



## Christmas 2018



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**W**e wish  
you all 

a happy and peaceful Christmas and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday 8th January 2019!



# Headmaster's Foreword



Christmas is almost upon us, the end of term is nigh and as I sit in my study surrounded by cards and feeling full of good cheer, I want to take a moment to share with you a few highlights of the last half term.

Mayfield Preparatory School has now been in the Sunday Times League Tables Top 100 Prep Schools for the eighth successive year, currently ranked 24th, and is now the top prep school in the West Midlands. Due to our outstanding and improved results last year, I anticipate even better next year!

The first big event after

half term was the 'Poetry and Poppies' day to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. The staff and children created beautiful displays around the school and the PTA funded a visit from a visiting poet who worked with each class to create a grand piece of historical poetry. Shortly afterwards, Livingstone House organised a whole school dressing up day to support Children in Need, and we raised over £600 for a great cause. Mrs Hawthorne, our new Assistant Head, organised activities and a parent workshop for the school's Friendship Week.

There have been quite a few trips and visits this term. Upper II and Lower III visited RAF Cosford, which supported their History topic about the Battle of Britain perfectly. We also enjoyed the annual visit by the Young Shakespeare Company, who thrilled us with a dynamic and interactive

rendition of Twelfth Night. Thank you to the Governing Body for paying for it. Upper School and Lower School again went to the panto to watch Dick Whittington at the Lichfield Garrick. It was great value and I would highly recommend it if you have spare time during the holidays. Meanwhile, Kindergarten and Nursery have been to Dudley Zoo, while Pre-Nursery had a great day at Ash End Farm. Nursery also had a 'taster' at Pizza Express. Finally, we had a visit from Andi Markham of Kids UK, who, with the help of his friends, Jack and Grandpa, helped us to remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Our school sports teams have enjoyed success: football fixtures have been played against West House and Hallfield, where we managed a clean sweep of four victories in total. In the House Competitions, Nightingale won the

Junior House Football and Livingstone the Senior House football, Nightingale won the Senior House Hockey and Scott won the Junior House Hockey, while Livingstone are the overall winners of the House Merit Cup. Watch this space for further fixtures in rugby, netball, swimming and cross-country organised for next term.

Nursery and Kindergarten collaborated to perform a charming Nativity, written by the amazing Mrs Higgins, where the children wowed us with their beautiful singing and self-confidence. Not to be outdone, Transition

and Form I gave us one of Mayfield's finest Nativities, entitled 'Whoops-a-daisy, Angel', adapted and mostly written by the talented Mrs Guest. Well done to all the children and staff.

As ever, we are extremely grateful to the hardworking staff and parents of the PTA. Last week's Christmas Fayre was a magnificent event and everybody had the most wonderful time. Over £1300 was raised on the night, which will go towards valuable resources and events for the children. Many thanks also to the members of the PTA, who have provided refreshments after all the school

performances this term.

The Carol Service at St Matthew's was a fitting finale for the term. As always, the children sang their hearts out and the instrumentalists were particularly fine. Well done to the children, Mrs Hayward and all the staff for giving us such joy at the end of a busy and hardworking term.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. Stay safe, enjoy the holiday and I look forward to seeing you all refreshed on Tuesday 8th January.

Mr M. Draper  
Headmaster

## Visitors



Lower III and Upper II had an assembly with Boris from **Rooftop Housing**, where they were told about the local homeless people.

The **Young Shakespeare Company** came and performed Twelfth Night with Upper School.

**QMGS Skiffle** group gave a great chorus of Jingle Bells and The Twelve Days of Christmas amongst other songs.

Sam from **Medical Mavericks** came to assembly to discuss roles in the NHS and showed us how to use a Doppler Ultrasound.



## Elves

The Christmas Elves have been busy around the school. Special thanks to Miss Gamble, Mrs Dhesi and Miss Cummings for decorating the Grotto for Father Christmas. They've secured themselves a place on the Nice list!



## Enrichment



Congratulations to all of our Highclare poetry competition entrants. We have successfully achieved second place in this year's competition

with an entry by Rajan (shown on page 9). Elissa, Harman, Jeevan and Hana have all been awarded Highly Commended certificates.

Well done to Amraya for becoming the Under 8's Staffordshire Chess Champion!



# Meet The Team



Miss Roberts



What is your favourite Christmas Song? **Last Christmas by Wham or the carol— Away in a Manger.**



Who's your favourite author? **Children's author would be Julia Donaldson.**

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you choose? **Somewhere by the sea.**



What car would you like to own? **I love my Fiat 500 & Bongo Campervan but would like a top of the range VW Camper.**



What's your favourite TV show? **I'm hooked on The Apprentice and Masterchef.**

What's the best gift you've ever received? **An illustrated, framed poem from my Goddaughter. A real personal and individual gift.**



Who's on your playlist? **In the car—Bonjovi, Meatloaf and at home 80's hits.**



Christmas Eve or Christmas Day? **Christmas Day, I love the present giving and big family meal.**



What pets do you have? **A very fat cat, who's been put on a diet by the vet. She's weighed fortnightly— Slimming World for Cats!**



What superpower would you like? **To be invisible!**

# Curriculum Focus - History



History at Mayfield has taken a new 'enquiry led' approach to learning. We are focusing on studying much less content in greater detail. Pupils and staff have been enthusiastic about this approach as they have delved into several different 'big questions' from their topics. Upper II and Lower III have spent a term investigating events from June 1940 and thinking about why it was important for Britain to win the Battle of Britain. A visit to RAF Cosford helped to bring the era to life, where children were able to handle uniforms from World War II and experience the reality of an Anderson air raid shelter. Form II and Lower II have gone back in time to the Roman

Empire exploring how the Roman invaders changed life in Britain. A field trip to the ruined Roman town of Wroxeter brought to life the different features of Roman buildings and everyday life. Form I and Transition have had lots of fun comparing and contrasting toys from 1960's with modern day toys, lots of fun was had handling and playing

with toys that were over 40 years old when they visited The Museum of Childhood at Sudbury. In addition to this, Lower School linked their work to modern day technology and Internet Safety by creating their own 'be safe on line' posters.

Here are some examples of fantastic work from across the school.



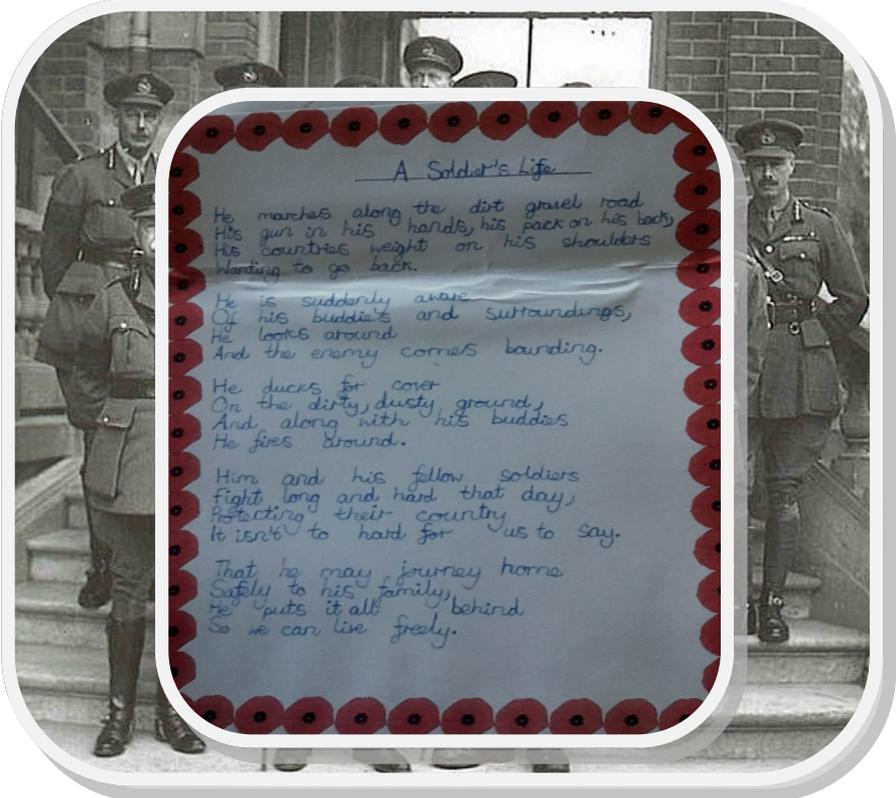


# Remembrance Day

To

commemorate 100 years since WW1, the children have taken part in Poetry and Drama workshops. Beautiful, poignant displays have been created around the school. Tania from **West End in Schools** organised a Remembrance Day Poetry workshop, where children from KG to Lower III took part in reciting poems on WW1.





## Trips and Visits

Upper II and Lower III have had a wonderful trip to RAF Cosford where they attended a workshop about The Battle of Britain, experienced a war shelter and heard the sound effects of living through war.



**T**ransition to Lower III went to see Dick Whittington at The Lichfield Garrick Theatre for the annual pantomime.

*Oh no they didn't.....Oh yes they did!!*



**P**re-Nursery had a lovely trip to Ash End Farm, whilst Nursery and Kindergarten went to Dudley Zoo!



## Nativities

**T**his year's Nativity performances have been fabulous, well done to Nursery, Kindergarten, Transition and Form I.



## Key Dates



- ◆ 8th January 2019 Start of Spring Term
- ◆ 11th January 2019 Transition Maths Workshop
- ◆ 17th January 2019 Nursery & Kg to Children's Play Village
- ◆ 18th January 2019 RWI Workshop
- ◆ 24th January 2019 Transition & Form I Money Workshop
- ◆ 24th January 2019 Kindergarten Writing Workshop
- ◆ 4th February 2019 Lower III to Safeside
- ◆ 8th February 2019 Upper II & Lower III Maths Workshop
- ◆ 8th February 2019 Lower II & Form II Think Tank
- ◆ 11th February 2019 Form II KEHS Physics Road show
- ◆ 11th February 2019 UII & LIII Rugby Fixture at Hallfield School
- ◆ 13th February 2019 House Music Festival



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