

MAYFIELD MESSENGER



February Half-Term 2019



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Headmaster's Foreword



Dear Parents,
Back in January, it seemed as if we faced a short, quiet half term ahead of us. However, it has turned out to be extremely busy with an amazing amount packed into relatively few weeks.

The most exciting development has been the beginning of the construction of the new school hall. The children (and staff!) have been thrilled to see how quickly the hall building is now going up. The

work is on track for a finish around the Whitsun half term at the end of May, when we will be able to start using it. Darwin Construction came into school to give an assembly to the children and a presentation to the parents last Friday. I understand that their senior managers vie for the honour of dressing up as Ivor Goodsite, and this time their Head Designer, Jamie, drew the short straw! He has set the children a design competition of anything to do with the building of the school hall; the deadline is Monday 25th February and there are lots of prizes to be won!

The children have enjoyed workshops in Internet Safety, and Mindfulness & Wellbeing, as well as enjoying a variety of school trips. Lower III visited Safeside, run by

the fire service, to help them cope with the challenges of life after Mayfield in Senior Schools, Lower II and Form II enjoyed a trip to the Thinktank, Kindergarten and Nursery had a trip to Warwick Children's Village that was memorable for all kinds of reasons, while Nursery have toured round Walsall pursuing their topic of understanding people's occupations with visits to dentists, Pizza Express and Lidl, and receiving visits from many of our parents to tell them about their jobs. Staff have also run many parent workshops for Internet Safety, Mindfulness & Wellbeing, Read Write Inc, Writing in Kindergarten, SATs for Form I and Mathematics for each year group from Transition to Lower III.

On the musical front, Form II took part in the Blue Coat Festival at St Matthew's Church and sang divinely. Also, last week was a round of ABRSM exams for our young, budding instrumentalists.

This week, we celebrated the Music Festival; Eve won the Junior trophy, Priya

won the Senior trophy and Livingstone won the House Cup. Thanks to our Guest of Honour, Richard Mason, Head of Music at Aldridge School and thanks to our Director of Music, Mrs Hayward.

Finally, I am sure you will join me in wishing all the best to Mrs Leonard and Mrs Andrews, who have

now gone on maternity leave, and I hope to see them back at Mayfield soon. I wish you all a lovely half-term break and look forward to seeing the children fresh and eager on the 25th.

Best wishes,

Mr M. Draper

Headmaster

House Music Festival



A big well done to all our fantastic competitors for the house music festival, you were all superstars! Fantastic effort from all Livingstone competitors to be the overall winning house, and to Priya (senior winner) and Eve (junior winner), who wowed our wonderful guest adjudicator Richard Mason (Director of Music, Aldridge School).

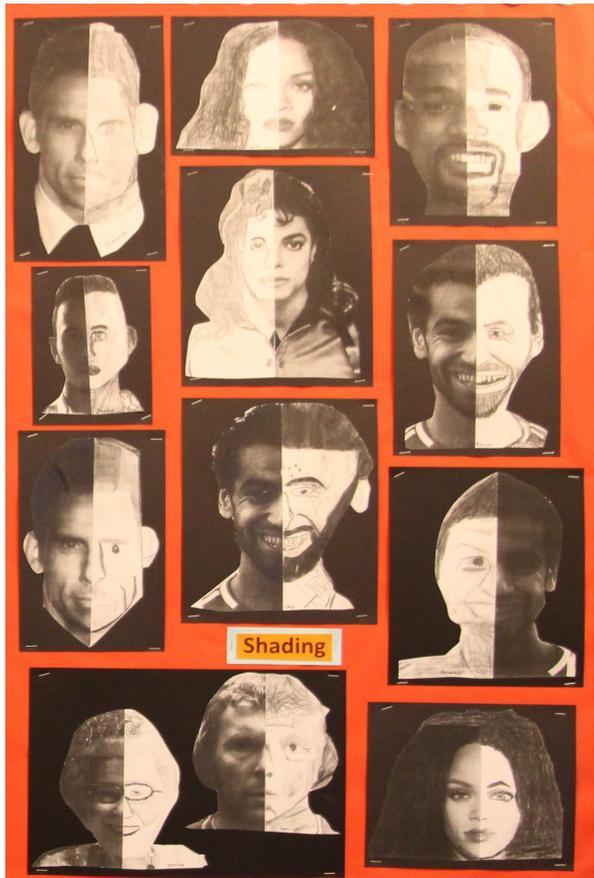
Art

Like the artist Pablo Picasso Lower III have undoubtedly many talents. The Spanish artist experimented with painting and drawing, as well as sculpting and collaging.

The pupils have been working in an array of spectacular styles, changing their approach throughout their Picasso and portrait project. The realistic style work shows their ability to sketch using observation skills, proportion tones and mark- making, creating beautiful true-to-life depictions.

The Cubist, abstract style work has allowed pupils to use their imagination and creative skills. The work incorporates geometry, fractured forms, and thick, black lines.

Lower III have been challenged in both abstract and realistic styles. The results have been amazing.



Meet The Team

Mr Watts



Can you tell me a joke?
Did you hear about the mathematician who's afraid of negative numbers?
He'll stop at nothing to avoid them!



Describe yourself as a teenager, in three words.
Reserved, Level-headed, Considerate.



What's your favourite film?
Jurassic Park.



What genre of books do you like to read? **Science Fiction, I love War of the Worlds by H G Wells.**



What are your hobbies?
Watching sport, going to the cinema and playing board games with my children.



Best advice you've ever received?
If at first you don't succeed, keep trying until you do.



Which football team do you support? **Swansea City F.C (The Pride of Wales).**

What was your favourite subject at school? **History.**

If you weren't a teacher, what would you like to be? **A cricketer.**



If you were stuck on a desert island, who would you like for company? **God.**

Curriculum Focus - Maths

We have had a number of maths workshops for parents and children, these have been for classes from Transition through to Lower III.

Presentations have been created for most of the Maths workshops and are available to any parents who may have missed the workshops.

Selected Year 4 children went to KES for the Maths Challenge, Rohan has written up an account of the day. Well done boys!

Simran, Andy and Sandeep from the Royal Bank of Scotland group came in to discuss real life money situations with the children.

The Upper School maths team now consists of Mrs Cook for Lower II and Form II, Mr Watts for Upper II and Mrs Hawthorne for Lower III.





KES Maths Challenge by Rohan

"On Wednesday 23rd January me, Dhruv, Aryan and Aarush went to the KES Maths Challenge. We may not have come first but we had a lot of fun. There was a Cross Number to start with, which we had to fill in, we got 42 out of 51. Our next challenge was the Maths Relay where we had to fill in the answers in our teams and then run to our teachers to see if we got it right. If we didn't they would give us another chance and if we still didn't do it we would get another sheet of paper.

At the end this person showed us some Maths Magic, she showed us a trick with cards and then we got to do it with the person next to us and this magic trick actually worked!

The journey there and back was in Mrs Inkster's car, we chatted all the way there and back, personally that was my favourite part! We also had a hot lunch which was a shock to the system. I enjoyed the Maths Challenge a lot, it was a great day.

Thank you Mrs Inkster and Mrs Cook for taking us to it."



Enrichment

Nursery decorated a biscuit with icing sugar, chocolate hearts and sprinkles ready to give to their loved ones. On the other hand they might just eat it themselves!

Form II have been making healthy smoothies, whilst Upper II have been creating lovely pizza creations!



Mindfulness

Mr Watts organised for Amy Hatfield from Balance Holistics to do a mindfulness session for children during the morning of 30th January and a separate session for parents in the afternoon. A Mental Health workshop has also been run for parents.

Last Wednesday our pupils were shown how

to be more resilient during assessment time. This week we have been using strategies such as manipulating play dough, enclosing our worries in a bubble and watching it float

away and flying our anxieties away on a paper plane. We have also talked about positive affirmations and sang along to 'Don't worry, be happy'.



Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day was globally recognised on 5th February 2019. A parent workshop was held on the 4th February, organised by Mrs Hawthorne. The successful workshop gave parents a chance to voice any concerns with regard to internet

and online safety. The parent presentation is available on the school website.

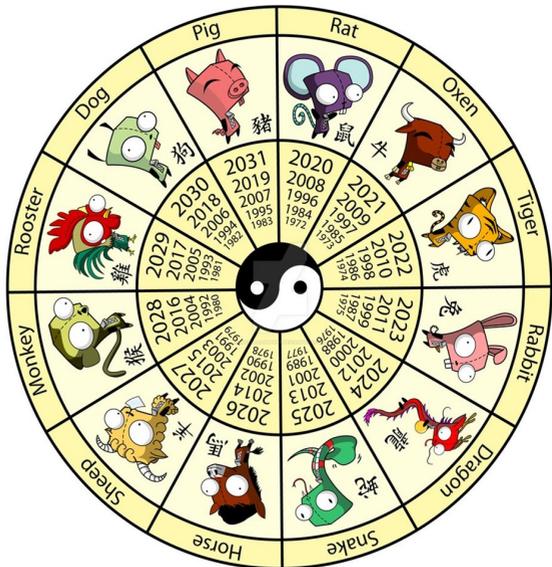


Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year was celebrated on the 5th of February, twelve animals represent each year and this year is the year of the pig. Each animal has its own characteristics just like the zodiac. The pig is the twelfth of all zodiac animals and in Chinese culture represents good fortune. Seven of our current Lower Ills were born in the year of the fire pig. People born in this year are said to be

diligent, compassionate and generous! Lucky numbers for those born in the year of the pig are

2, 5 & 8 and lucky colours are yellow, grey, gold and brown.



Trips and Visits

Nursery's learning topic this term is 'People who help us' and as part of their topic they are learning about different people's occupations. We looked within our local community and visited an Opticians. Children got to learn about healthy eyes, to sit in the chair and read some sounds and to also try on some glasses! Children also spoke to the on-site builders as part of their occupations topic.



Form II and Lower II had a great science packed trip to Think Tank.



Nursery and Kindergarten went to the Children's play village. They had a lovely time despite the eventful return journey!



Lower III have been to Safeside which is a learning centre that promotes visitors to think and act safely.

They saw a full sized street scene which had a pedestrian crossing, bus, building society branch, car, canal, shop and courtroom.

Areas such as life-skills

for independent living, key issues around road, fire and water safety

and what to do in an emergency were all covered.



safe side

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE

Key Dates - 2019



- ◆ 1st March Transition & Form I to Dudley Zoo
- ◆ 2nd March Dudley Music Festival
- ◆ 2nd March Hallfield Cross Country LII-LIII
- ◆ 6th March PTA (County Hotel)
- ◆ 7th March World Book Day
- ◆ 11th March Mental Health Parents Workshop
- ◆ 19th March KES Swimming Gala
- ◆ 20th March Primary Singing Festival (UII at Forest Arts)
- ◆ 25th March RE Workshop, Upper II at KES
- ◆ 25th March Sparks Visit for Form II
- ◆ 26th March Parents Evening (N-FI, LII & UII)
- ◆ 27th March Parents Evening (PN-FI, FII & LIII)
- ◆ 3rd April Spring Concert at Central Hall
- ◆ 9th April Spring Festival (LII & FII)



MAYFIELD PREPARATORY SCHOOL
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