



Mayfield Spring 2

21/22

[Headmasters Foreword](#)

[Mini Mayfield](#)

[Mini Mayfield & Kindergarten](#)

[Transition](#)

[Form 1](#)

[Lower II](#)

[Form II](#)

[Upper II & Lower III](#)

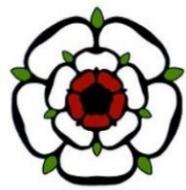
[News](#)

[Science week](#)

[Cross country](#)

[Key dates](#)





Mr Draper

Headmasters Foreword

Dear all,

It has been a ridiculously long Spring Term, and I'll explain why. It's all to do with the fiendishly complicated method of calculating Easter Sunday in a uniquely baffling synthesis of mathematics, astronomy and theology. Apparently, Easter falls on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the Spring Equinox. The result this year is a very late Easter and hence school breaking up on 1st April and I must tell you this is not an April Fool's Joke!

Let us take a look back at the highlights of the last half term. In sports news, for the first time in two years, we managed to put out a full complement of teams for the Hallfield Cross Country. The children raced hard and acquitted themselves well, gaining valuable experience, with the best performance a rousing 6th place for Saran!



In the last few weeks, the children in Upper School have contested the House matches in a competitive, but always sporting manner. The House Netball was won by Nightingale, the House Cross Country was won by Nightingale, the House Basketball was won by Scott, the House Rugby was won by Scott and the House Chess was won by Scott. The House Cup was won by Nightingale. Congratulations to everyone!

World Book Day was a great success, and it was such fun seeing everyone dressed up as book characters. Speaking of dressing up, valuable funds were also raised for the Ukraine and for Comic Relief on Red Nose Day. Science Week was fabulous, with the highlight being the visit of the 'Wonderdome'!

This half term, Form II saw an amazing show of the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe to support their class reader. Transition loved seeing the animals at Ash End Farm on their school trip. Pre-Nursery had a whale of a time at Adventure Street, more details later. Nursery and Kindergarten had a great trip to the Thinktank earlier this week, while Form I enjoyed a historical trip to Aston Hall on Wednesday. It's always so nice when members of the public and the people who work at these venues compliment our children on how well they behave and how smart they look!

Yesterday, the Lower School and Early Years had a lovely Easter Bonnet parade. How cute did they look! Well done, parents, for your creativity. Parents and children in Early Years also thoroughly enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt yesterday. Today, we held an Easter Service for the first time in three years, which included a re-telling of the Easter story interspersed with hymns beautifully sung by our children. Thanks go to Reverend Joe from St Matthew's Church for leading the service and to Mr and Mrs Gerighty for preparing the music and singing so well.

It has been a long, tiring but ultimately deeply satisfying and very successful term. I wish everyone a well-deserved break and a great holiday! See you back in school on 26th April.

Happy Easter!

Mr M. Draper
Headmaster





Mini Mayfield

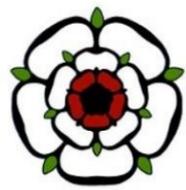
Miss Sal



Kaiya and Aveer enjoyed driving the fire truck and extinguishing a roaring blaze. Autumn served everyone yummy gelatos. Neve enjoyed working in the organic green grocers, Noor made everyone lunch in the exclusive café and poor Mrs. Ahmed was put in prison and had to wear a convict uniform.

Pre-Nursery really enjoyed their visit to Adventure Street in Wolverhampton. It is a beautifully designed child size play town. A great place for Mayfield children who are bursting with imagination. The children played with confidence and developed their life-skills in familiar real-life scenarios. They used high quality props in the realistic role play settings such as a doctor's surgery, a construction site and a vets to name but a few. The children were fire fighters, shop assistants, bakers and jailors/prisoners.





Nursery

Mr Watts

Nursery Trip to ThinkTank: On Monday 28th March the children in Nursery and Kindergarten went to the Thinktank museum in Birmingham for an educational trip. We travelled by coach and arrived at 10.15. The children were so excited to explore all of the areas and learn new facts. We visited the exhibition "Our changing planet" where we learnt about the animals on our planet and medicine. Then we had a snack (banana and biscuits!) before moving onto MiniBrum, which was a new mini city teaching us about science and engineering. In the Den we watched a video about teamwork and not giving up before building strong towers in our coloured groups. The children really enjoyed the playground and going down the slide!

After lunch we went outside for our next activity – the Science garden, an outdoor discovery park that explores the science behind energy and mechanics. This water garden was the children's favourite activity before they visited the "we made it" activity and returned to the coach. It was the end of a fun, but very tiring day!



Kindergarten

Miss Roberts

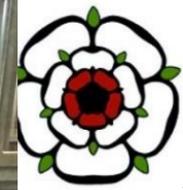
It has been another busy half term in Kindergarten. As well as our normal timetable of lessons there have been lots of exciting activities to get involved in. We celebrated World Book Day with a story telling workshop and enjoyed dressing up as our favourite book characters. We helped to raise money for 2 important charities – the people of the Ukraine and Red Nose Day. On Red Nose Day we got to visit our first Mayfield Tuck Shop, which was great fun.

Every Tuesday we have taken part in Forest School activities, finding out about different animals who live in our forest habitat. We ended our Forest School lessons with a campfire.

In our topic lessons we have heard different stories about bears. We have then been finding out about real bears and their habitats.

This half term ended with a great trip to The Think Tank and lots of fun Easter celebrations, including the Easter Bonnet Parade and an Easter egg hunt.





Transition

Author: Mrs Smith

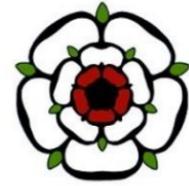


As part of Transition's Science topic 'Animals and Humans', we visited Ash End Farm this half term. When we arrived it was blue skies and lovely and dry. The children spent an hour playing in the Big Barn adventure play centre. Highlights included the big blue drop slide and the giant pillow they could all jump up and down on! We enjoyed our lunch sitting in the jungle area amongst a few monkeys!

After lunch, the rain arrived. We were then taken on a tour of the farm. (luckily undercover). This included us being able to feed the baby goats, sheep and hold some very fluffy chicks. We visited the hen house and were able to take our very own egg home. Lastly, we saw some horses, cows and pigs.

We all had an amazing day and would love to visit again! Next time we will hope for better weather!





Lower II

Mrs Hatton

In Design and Technology, Lower II were able to put into practice the skills that they have developed, to design, make and evaluate a Viking Longboat. The children worked in groups to plan their Viking Longboat, ensuring that they included all the features that they had learnt about in Humanities. The children worked very well in their teams, collaborating effectively, using a variety of materials and resources safely and finishing off their models to an impressive standard. Some groups even added detail to the inside of their boat, including benches and food. The children created some excellent models that they were very proud of.





To complement our class reader, Form II went on a school trip to the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, to see 'The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe'. It was a lovely visit to this grand theatre and the children and staff loved the 5-star, performance. The costumes, puppetry, acting, music and staging were all fantastic and we all truly enjoyed this magical story.

Form II wrote a theatre review of the show, which were all a delight to read. It was very difficult to choose one to publish, but Simi identified a connection between 'a dark skull and evil spirits. Well done, Simi.

The children benefitted from the experience, which supplemented their learning, and they were impeccably behaved.



Form II

Mrs Hatton



Wednesday 9th March 2022

The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe Review

The breath-taking Narnia is magically brought back to life at the marvellous Alexandra theatre

Narnia is a classic book for children written by C.S Lewis and beautifully brought back to life by some stunning actors and actresses at the Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham.

Four children have to evacuate their home and go to Aberdeenshire. When they arrive, the professor picks them up. Lucy follows a cat around the house and finds a wintery wonderland.

I really liked the costumes, the way a fake skull hung over someone's head for the dark evil spirits. I loved the lanterns that represented Turkish delight floating around forming shapes like a little human being. Also, Edmund acted all selfish. Lucy and Susan were really bold and fearless. Peter really stuck up for Lucy. The White Witch acted really cruel and then nice to Edmund, it was so cool when she rose into the air, all the birds flying too.

The spectacularly amazing performance has been magically brought to life. This is why I gave it a five-star review. And a smiley face!

By Simi

Form II



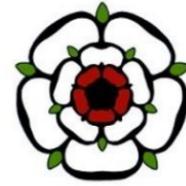


Upper II really enjoyed their visit to the Wonder Dome as part of Science Week. They had remembered lots of information from our Earth and Space Topic from the Autumn Term and asked lots of excellent questions. One comment I heard was 'Hashtag Amazing!'

We saw the International Space Station up close and personal and had a tour of the galaxy, whizzing past the terrestrial planets and the gas giants. We relived the original Moon Landing and had a glimpse into the future of space travel. Mankind is hoping to visit Mars in the next 20-30 years.

I wonder if any of these children will be amongst the first visitors to another planet?

 **Upper II**
Author: Mrs. Marston



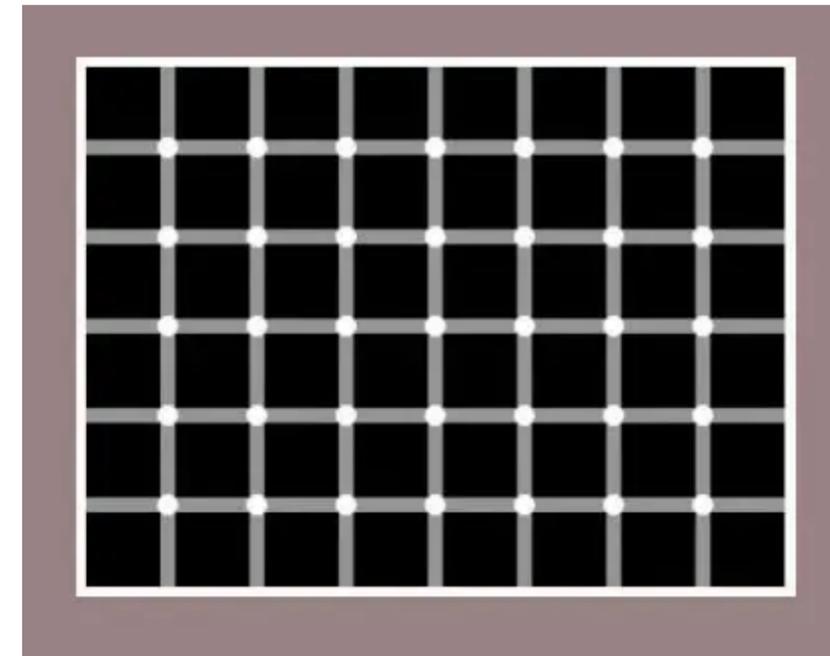
Lower III

Mrs Hawthorne.

This half term, Lower III have studied the topic 'light' in Science. This included reflection, refraction, light sources, shadows, the light spectrum, how we see colour and Isaac Newton's theories.

During Science Week we created origami viruses and explored optical illusions. LIII enjoyed the optical illusions, quickly developing a curiosity to understand how optical illusions worked. LIII tried to create their own optical illusions afterwards.

Can you count the black dots in the image below?



Optical illusions work because your brain needs a little rest to cope with all of the complicated work it needs to do, so it devised a few shortcuts along the way. Things like colours, shadows and perspectives help the brain understand what it's seeing, so your brain starts to form an opinion based on these clues. There are actually no black dots in the above image, your brain is trying to make sense of the image and seeing something that isn't there!



News

Mayfield students and the amazing things that they do.

In November last year, all our U11 and L11 children took part in the Primary Mathematical Challenge. We awarded lots of Gold, Silver and Bronze badges. One of our students did well enough to go through to the Bonus Round, where he achieved an amazing Gold Badge. Huge congratulations to Aarav Sohi!

More congratulations are due for Aarav as he has recently been accepted as a member of MENSA – well done, Aarav!



World Book Day

3rd March 2022

Once upon a time.... at Mayfield...everyone awoke and stretched, ahead of getting dressed for the day. Students and staff were compelled, with the overwhelming urge, to come to school dressed as one of their favourite book characters. With a little magic and hard work from 'helpers at home', the school was transformed into a colourful and vibrant world of books!

The day was a triumph, with stories from all genres being represented. Conversations about books and stories were plentiful; phrases such as 'I love that book', 'that's my favourite story' and 'I'm going to read that story next!' Were heard throughout the school.

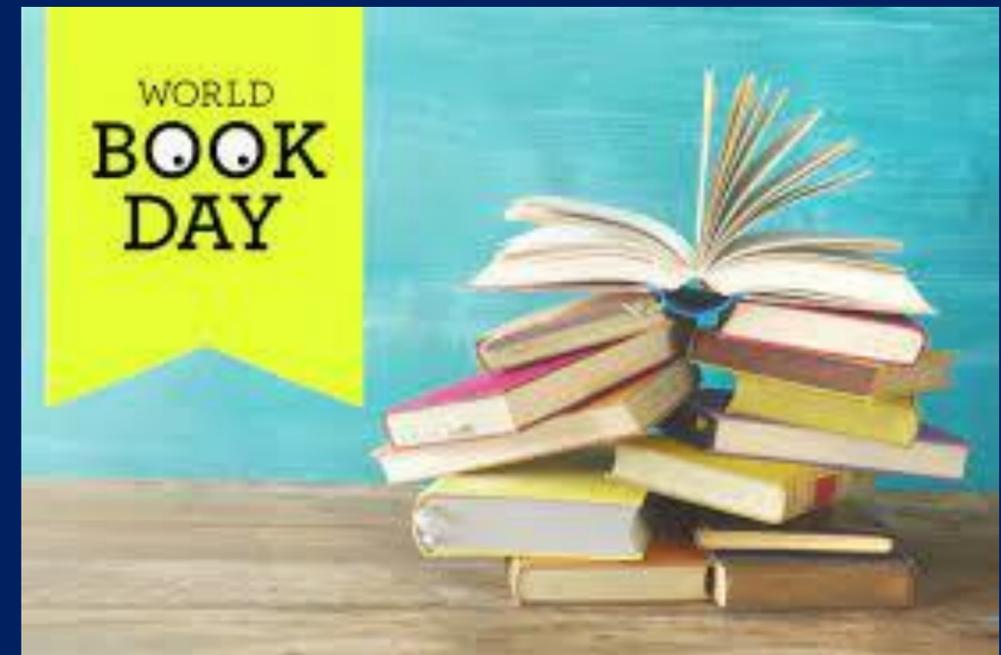
Well done and thank you to all for getting involved in World Book Day, we've missed it over the past two years, but it has for sure, returned in all its splendour!

Charities

Thank you for your support and generous donations for the charity events held in school last week we raised £333.78 for Ukraine support and £561 for Red Nose day.

The children looked wonderful in their blue and yellow outfits, there was a real sense of purpose around the school showing that the children knew they were helping a very worthwhile cause.

Red nose day brought the return of the much-loved tuck shop (thank you for your donations), while tucking into their snacks children discussed where their donations would go and how they would help.

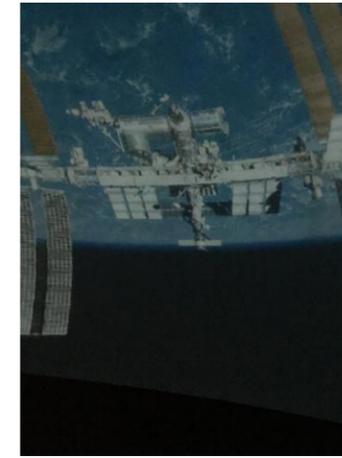




Science week

Mrs Crosby

British Science week was launched with a buzz this year with a visit to the Wonderdome for pupils in Kindergarten to LIII. Pupils enjoyed learning about space, stars, planets and the Mars mission.



Growth

This year's topic was Growth and pupils spent the week completing a range of STEM activities based around the topic. Pre-Nursery enjoyed making cress heads. Nursery made posters of their life journey so far. Kindergarten did shape building to grow a model, looked at parts of a tree and made habitats for minibeasts. Pupils in Transition had a go at making stretchy slime which was a great success! Form I were ingenious gentoo penguins for the day and built nests outdoors. Lower II created their own Martian creature that would survive on Mars using plasticine. They also investigated sustainable cleaning solutions, testing different washing liquids and powders on stains. Form II looked at glorious mud, looking at the particles in soil. Upper II calculated the age of a shark by length and used this to calculate their own age. Lower III had a difficult task of creating antibody and virus origami but persevered and really enjoyed the task. Finally, the week ended with our poster competition. The posters were amazing, and everyone enjoyed looking at them in the courtyard and voting for their favourite. The top five were entered into the competition online and we hope to have a winner! The results were: Joint 4th Samarah Nadeem (LIII) and Hemali Mittal (LIII), joint 2nd Sumayya Nadeem (LII) and Taara Chohan (LII) and the winner in 1st place was Deesha Argarwal (LIII). (see photos of the winning posters opposite).

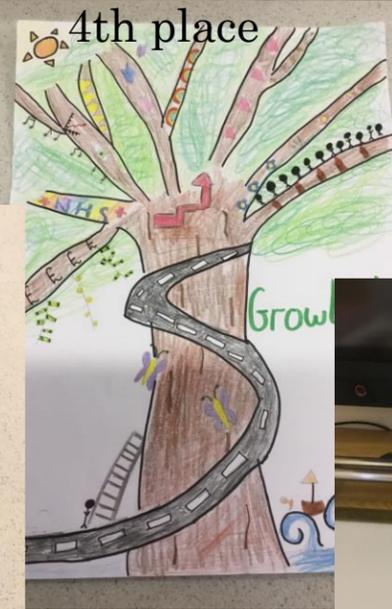
2nd place



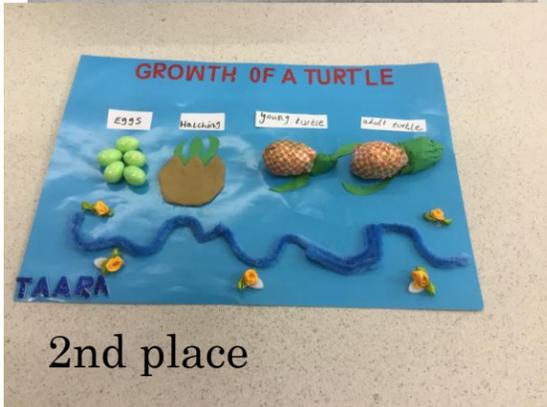
4th place



4th place



2nd place



1st place





Cross Country

Mrs Pittaway

Children from Lower II, Form II, Upper II and Lower III have all competed in the House Cross Country even this term. The children were required to run two laps of the paddock, which is approximately 1.2km. The scores from the events and the house with the lowest overall total will go on to fit the coveted cross country trophy. The results are a closely guarded secret, and will be revealed during the End of Term assembly.

All pupils worked really hard and were a credit to their house teams, special credit to pupils in Upper II and Lower III as the weather was horrendous! The top cross country also had an opportunity to represent the school in some fixtures against other schools.



Hallfield Cross Country

Selected pupils from Lower II, Form II, Upper II and Lower III competed in the cross country event at Hallfield School in Birmingham. It was perfect cross country weather, sun shining but not too hot.

The children were a little intimidated at first by the course, but a walk of the course calmed the nerves. There were 10 schools competing so there was a large amount of competition in each age group.

The children certainly did Mayfield proud and competed with valor and integrity. The standard was extremely high and unfortunately we didn't come in the top three of the competition. A special mention to Saran in Lower II who came sixth out of around 40 children, the highest placing that I can remember at my time at Mayfield. Even more impressive that she was competing against girls that are a year older than she is!



Key Dates

- 26th April Start of Summer Term
- 9th - 12th May Key Stage 2 SATS
- 20th May ABRSM Music Exams
- 26th May Queen's Jubilee Tea Party
- 27th May Start of Half term holiday
- 13th June Start back to school
- 13th June Lower III Adventure week
- 15th June MAD Museum & Stratford Butterfly Farm
- 21st June Transition and Form I Sports Days
- 21st June Mayfield Maths Quiz Ull
- 24th June Early Years Sports Day
- 29th June Lower II and Form II Sports Days
- 1st July Upper II and Lower III Sports Days
- 11th July Moving up day



MAYFIELD PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Believe It! Achieve It!

Mayfield

Thank you for taking the time to read our magazine, we hope it has provided an enjoyable insight into the half term.

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