



Mayfield



Autumn 2

22/23

[Headmasters Foreword](#)

[Mini Mayfield](#)

[Mini Mayfield & Kindergarten](#)

[Transition & Form 1](#)

[Lower II & Form II](#)

[Upper II & Lower III](#)

[Mayfield Maths Quiz & Art and DT](#)

[Charity Events](#)

[The Mayfield Gallery](#)

[The Highclare Writing Competition](#)

[Your Adventures & Key dates](#)





Mr Draper

Headmaster's Foreword

End of Term Round Up

It's only one week until Christmas, we've had Christmas parties in the Early Years, Lower School and Upper School this week and I've never seen so many Christmas jumpers, sparkly dresses and tinsel! I want to take a moment to share with you a few highlights of the last half term.

Last Sunday, we learned that Mayfield Preparatory School has now been in the Sunday Times League Tables Top 100 Prep Schools for the twelfth successive year, ranked 15th, exactly the same as last year, and the top-ranked prep school in the Midlands! I hope everybody is very proud to be a part of our wonderful school!

The half term kicked off at 100mph back in November with a combined multi-event of the fabulous art gallery of lovely children's work, the Crested uniform pop-up shop, the long-awaited return of the Book Fair and the much-anticipated comeback of the MacMillan Coffee event, superbly organised by Lower III. The next day, we celebrated our Diwali Art Day, when the children enjoyed a number of different activities, including making clay Diva plates, decorating Diwali elephants, a Diwali dance class and many other things besides. Shortly afterwards, Scott House organised a non-uniform and tuck shop day to support Children in Need – see later in the magazine for further details.

Pupils in Upper II and Lower III also performed incredibly well in the Primary Mathematics Challenge, with a number of them achieving Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates. More of our mathematicians than ever before have also qualified for the bonus round in February, providing an opportunity to achieve a rare and highly-prized Bronze, Silver or Gold medal. Watch this space!

Active Gym hosted another gymnastics competition near the end of November in the Hall of the Olympians, featuring gymnasts from Mayfield as well as a number of other schools. In the House Competitions, Scott won the House Football and Livingstone won the House Hockey, while Nightingale are the overall winners of the House Merit Cup.

There has been a recent spate of trips and visits, mainly on a Christmas theme. Upper School and Lower School went to the panto to watch Snow White at the Lichfield Garrick. It was great value and I would highly recommend it if you have spare time during the holidays. I would advise dads, though, not to sit in the front row, like I did, unless you are happy for the attentions of the pantomime dame! For their treat, Kindergarten and Nursery went to the Birmingham Rep to see Jack and the Beanstalk, while Pre-Nursery had a great day last Monday at their Christmas party, with a visit from Santa and a magic show

entertainer, which Nursery children also enjoyed. Kindergarten, Transition and Form I also spent a great day out at the Chasewater steam railway, where they had a visit from Santa and his elves who brought presents for all the children.

Christmas is my favourite time of the year and I loved our recent Nativities. Nursery and Kindergarten performed the charming 'Christmas Count', which Mrs Aubrook said was the best Early Years Nativity she has seen at Mayfield. Not to be outdone, Transition and Form I gave us 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw', which was the best Mayfield Nativity I have ever seen. Well done to all the children for giving us such joy with your singing, acting and jokes, while many thanks go to all the staff for your hard work in putting it all together.

As ever, we are extremely grateful to the hardworking staff and parents of the PTA. Last week's Christmas Fayre was a hugely enjoyable and popular event. Santa and his elf were kept busy and I never stopped on the bagatelle stand! Valuable monies have been raised, which will go towards resources and events for the children. Many happy children and parents also walked off with one of our amazing Christmas hampers and congratulations to Form I for winning the best hamper award.

Due to the icy conditions on the route from school to St Matthew's church, the Carol

Service had to be moved to the Hall of the Olympians. However, it was a fitting finale for the term. As always, the children sang their hearts out and it was one of the best I can remember. Well done to the children, Mrs Gerighty and all the staff for giving us such joy at the end of a busy and hardworking term, and thank you to Reverend Joe of St Matthew's for leading our Carol Service.

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 Thursday 5th January.

Mr M. Draper

Headmaster





Mini Mayfield

Nursery Staff



It has been another busy half term in Nursery. We started in early November with a day to celebrate Divali and Bonfire Night. The children enjoyed dressing in colourful clothes, making firework pictures, cooking Divali sweets and learning some new dance moves.

On Remembrance Day we talked about remembering soldiers who died in the war and made poppies with playdough.

In the middle of November we helped raise money for Children in Need and enjoyed having treats from the tuck shop.

We have been busy in Forest School every Friday finding out about different animals in our school grounds. This included some bird watching and making our own bird feeders. We finished off this term by learning how to make a fire. We watched a video then collected different size sticks. Miss Roberts warmed milk on the fire and we had hot chocolate.

In our Topic sessions we have been finding out about how people are similar and different to us in different countries round the world. It has been fun to look at the globe and at different flags.

We had to work hard to get ready to perform our Nativity play. We had a great time learning all the songs and actions....and did lots of counting. Thank you for all the great costumes you provided for us.



Pre-Nursery

Pre-Nursery Staff



Christmas Café in Pre-Nursery.

Pre-Nursery have been having an enchanting time playing in their Christmas Café. They have enjoyed being baristas, chefs and customers. The fun does not end with make believe food, they have also sampled and made gastronomic delights such as hot chocolate, milk shakes, biscuits and pizza. They tasted various breads such as croissant and pan au chocolat and discussed which they preferred.

The Christmas Café is only open till the end of term so, come and enjoy a delicious snack!

Kindergarten

Mr. Watts

It has been a very busy half term in PE. The children have created dance moves to the Grandstand theme, maintained their balance across beams in gymnastics and improved their aim when throwing at targets. We have been very fortunate to have had some students from Queen Mary's Grammar School coming into Mayfield to teach us some PE skills with their sports teacher, Mr. Ryley. They have taught us how to shoot into a basketball net, how to dribble a football and score a goal into the empty net! Each of the QM students prepared and delivered a particular drill and the Kindergarten children really enjoyed their lessons. You should have seen their World Cup celebrations when they scored! The lessons started with some stretching exercises and then the children had to run around the hall stopping when they saw a red cone and getting ready on amber and then running when they saw green. They have made a lot of progress this term – they are even quicker at getting changed! Have a lovely Christmas!





Form I

Mrs Draper

This half term Form I have worked very hard treading the boards practising for the KS1 Nativity with Transition. After many hours of reciting lines, remembering cues, learning song lyrics and actions we were delighted to perform in front of our fellow students and parents. With great enthusiasm, we presented our version of 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw' with the support of singers and dancers from Transition. Our story began at the Mayfield Market, where some lucky children were presented with an old jigsaw depicting the Nativity scene. Once the children began to assemble the pieces, they noticed the familiar face of one of the market stallholders was actually the angel Gabriel shown in the puzzle! We travelled back in time to Bethlehem and Gabriel provided us with a guide to the events surrounding Jesus' birth. This included the Roman soldiers announcing the census and the evil King Herod, followed by the shepherds and wisemen all guided by a special star! The final piece of our jigsaw puzzle revealed the most important piece – the birth of Baby Jesus!

Transition have had a fantastic half-term, learning all about 'The King's Crown' in Humanities, where we were able to order some monarchs chronologically, and we found out lots about historic landmarks in London, including Buckingham Palace! We also spent lots of time thinking about positivity and happiness in PSED! We thought lots about how positive and negative thoughts make us feel, and we suggested lots of fantastic ideas to 'turn that frown upside down'!

We absolutely loved taking part in the KS1 Nativity, too, and the children were undoubtedly some of the most amazing shepherds, stars and angels that Mayfield has ever seen!

We finished off our half-term in style, with a well-earned visit to see Father Christmas at Chasewater Railway. Everyone was very excited to ride on the train and receive a special gift, and as you can see, even our class elf, Snowflake Jingle came along! I'm sure you'll all agree with myself and Miss Cummings that every single child thoroughly deserved their place on the 'Nice' list as a reward for their amazing efforts! We are very proud of them all and we are looking forward to more 'Team Transition' adventures in the New Year!



Transition

Mrs King



This term, Lower II have been writing poems about winter. Here are some of their amazing creations. The rest can be seen on our display. From snowflakes to snowmen and fireplaces to blizzards, Lower II really enjoyed writing them! Also, the improvements in handwriting have been fabulous! Well done, Lower II, and keep up the good work!

Everything about Winter
 Winter is fun and chilly
 Ice is slippery and makes you stumble
 Whooshing Wind
 You like to throw snowballs
 Winter is a looonng sleep!
 It is Winter, yay hooray!
 A roaring fire will make you feel warm
 With hot chocolate after playing in the snow.



Samay Kaul

Bare trees freezing as the winter goes through.
 All the warm silky scarves, grey gloves come out,
 as the winter gnawed at my bones.
 The birds hummed silently as we built snowmen.
 The icicles glisten when winter goes by.
 Still, silent, snowflakes fall as peacefully as a feather.
 The snow does hiss when it melts in winter.



Suhavi Gill

Winter is as cold as a freezer and nights never end.
 Listen to the crackling fire.
 Wind is bitter.
 Look at the jolly snowman and the pattering of feet of foxes.
 Chirp, chirp the greedy, cheeky robins.
 The winter will gnaw at your bones!



Jude Alleyne



Form II

Mrs Hitch

In November, Form II were treated to a visit from Walsall Fire Station's Green Watch. We watched a film about fire safety in the home which showed how quickly a fire spreads in just three minutes. They also showed us a smoke alarm which, when activated, would wake even the deepest sleeper!

Form II did a wonderful job of identifying potential hazards in the home, including unattended candles, cooking equipment and electrical appliances. We learned what to do in the event of a fire, from shouting for help to calling 999. The firefighters taught us the 'stop, drop and roll' technique to use in the event of clothes catching fire.

Green Watch were very impressed with the children's knowledge of car and road safety, the class had a discussion around the importance of keeping themselves and other passengers safe by sitting quietly, not distracting the driver and wearing a seatbelt. As pedestrians, we looked at correct and safe behaviour when crossing roads. Form II completed a quiz to test their memory on what they had learned about fire, road and car safety, then had an opportunity to ask the Firefighters all about the incredible job they do.



At the end of the afternoon, Green Watch told Mrs Guest that Form II were the most attentive and well-behaved class they had met, so we are very proud of them all!



Lower II

Mrs Crosby





Lower III

Mrs Andrews

The world cup got off to a great start with all students in Ull and Llll taking part in 'Literacy Through Sport' – a World Cup writing lesson which was led by the Author of "Write like a Ninja". This gave the children lots of 'Top Tips' to make their writing even more engaging. The children produced a fantastic piece of writing based on this workshop. The scenario that they were given put them 'in the shoes' of a footballer about to take a penalty.



Upper II have been investigating forces in Science, and were tasked with constructing a parachute to safely transport an egg back to the ground. We carried out an investigation during lessons to explore how to make our parachutes successful. Pupils used a range of materials to make their parachutes with various degrees of success.

Karram said, "I enjoyed this experiment because it was fun and enjoyable to watch parachutes land and the eggs cracking"

Kimran agreed with Karram, she said, " I enjoyed waiting to see if the egg would crack. I made my parachute by sewing 4 pieces of fabric together, and some buttons on for decoration. I was really pleased that my egg survived!"



Upper II

Mrs Pittaway

Llll recently had a trip to The Lockup – Police Museum in Birmingham. The day entailed a workshop based on Crime and Punishment and a general history of policing in the United Kingdom. After the workshop, students had a tour of the cells, we experienced a cell lit solely by a candle behind a screen to the cell – the conditions surprised us all. After the tour, the children had the opportunity to: dress up in Police uniform from across the ages, be a Detective and to learn about handwriting analysis. The feedback was great from the children – an experience to remember.





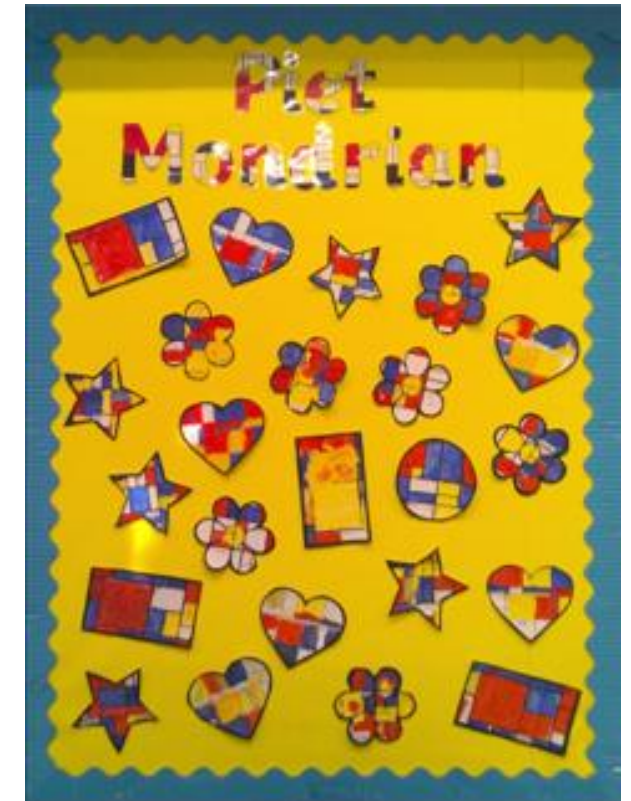
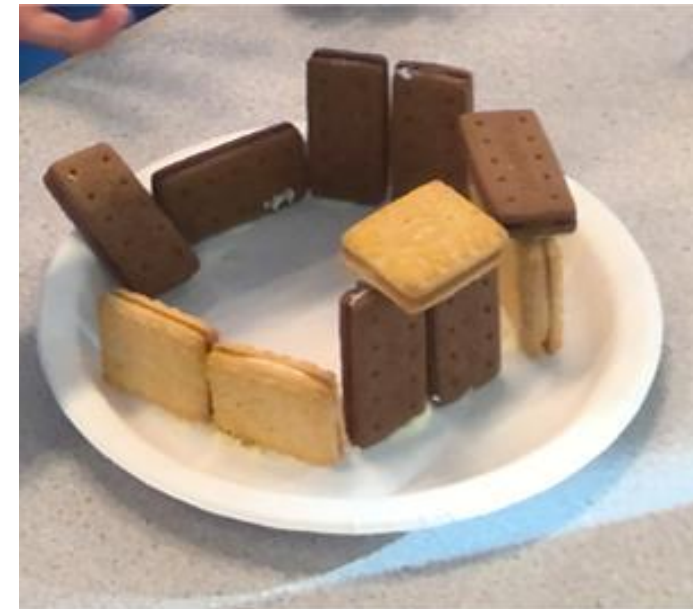
Art & DT
Mrs. Hatton



On Tuesday 18th October, Mayfield hosted our first mathematics quiz. We invited local schools to send four children each to join us for a morning of fun with maths. Four of our Lower IIs acted as hosts initially and made everyone feel welcome, before joining teams and taking part themselves. All the children were mixed up and had to decide on a name for their team.

We had three rounds; a treasure hunt, a relay and a very challenging puzzle involving letters for digits. At the end, the points were totalled, and Mr Draper awarded medals to the children in the top three scoring teams. Everyone had a goody bag, stuffed full of Mayfield memorabilia, to take home.

It was a very successful day, and all the schools were keen to do it again next year. Big thanks to Mrs Cook and Mrs Dhesi who were brilliant co-hosts.



Mayfield Maths Quiz
Mrs. Marston



Charity events

Christmas Tree Festival

Poppies, Pudsey and MacMillan

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the following charity fundraising events at Mayfield that have happened this term:

While our Macmillan Coffee Event raised a fantastic £432.50, a big shout of thanks for Mrs Andrews, Mrs Dhesi and Mrs Hatton along with Lower III organising the return of this popular and worthwhile fundraising event.

We raised lots of money for the poppy appeal – we never get to count these donations as they are in the sealed tins supplied by the British Legion and we return them sealed.

Each house is tasked annually with fundraising for a worthwhile charity, one house per term. Autumn Term was the turn of Scott House, headed up by Mrs Guest who chose to support BBC 'Children in Need' and held a tuck shop in school. This money combined with the merchandise Lower III sold raised an amazing £642.13. The 'guess the name of the bear' was won by Vera-Ann in PN with the name 'Yellow'.



This year, we were delighted to enter the All-Saints Parish Church Christmas tree festival. Our tree, had a definite sweet theme being decorated with a host of happy Gingerbread Men created by the children in Kindergarten and the Key Stage Two Craft Club.

It was displayed along with 35 other beautiful trees at the church on Foley Road East, Streetly. The local community were able to see all the hard work our children put in before the tree returned to school to be given 'pride of place' on the stage.

The tree is a living tree and will be planted on the paddock, in remembrance of Mr M. Coleman, a former headmaster of the school and of Mrs J Wainwright who sadly passed away earlier this year. Both former members of staff were passionate about children enjoying school. We are sure many children will enjoy helping to decorate each December and the start of the Christmas seasons and that it will brighten up the school for many years to come.

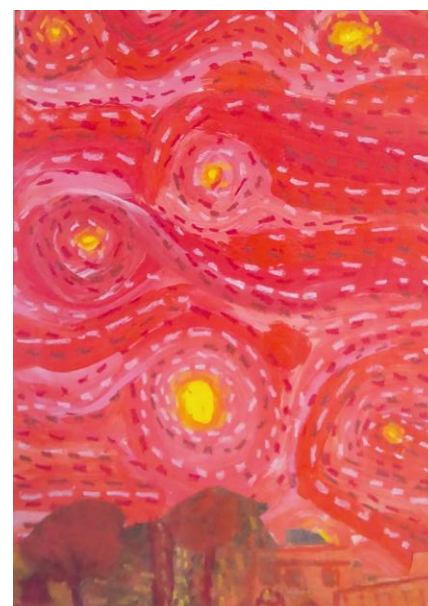




The Mayfield Gallery



Mrs Hatton



On Wednesday 2nd November, Mayfield held an Art Gallery. Every child from Pre-Nursery to Lower III produced a piece of artwork that was framed and displayed in the hall for all the pupils, staff and parents to view. Parents had the opportunity to purchase their child's artwork, with a percentage of the profits being raised for the school. Each year group created artwork during their art lessons, producing work of a high quality, eye catching and enjoyable to view. Pupils were given the opportunity to walk around the gallery, seeing work from all year groups and the talent that we have here at Mayfield. Children were proud to see their work displayed at school and it has been lovely to hear feedback that the children loved seeing their artwork in the Mayfield Gallery, and it is now hanging, pride of place at home.

Thank you to all of Mayfield for a wonderful Art Gallery and to the staff and parents for supporting this event.





Highclare writing competition

Mrs. Andrews

The children of KS2 were invited to step back in time to celebrate 100 years since the discovery of Tutankhamun's Tomb, in this year's annual Highclare Creative Writing Competition. Children worked hard to let their creative juices flow, producing poems that reflected one of History's most prolific finds. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate not only all the children who submitted an entry but to those who gained a special mention from the Headmaster – Dr R. Luker.

The following children's poems were Highly Commended: Tulsi, Sehej, Dylan, Aairiya, Gursimran, Pavit, Jovan and Magda.

Huge congratulations to: Iyla and Jayan

who were two of ten authors selected as Category Winners. Mayfield English Teachers are very proud of you all.

The winning poems....

The Golden Afterlife

Tutankhamun perched on his golden throne
Though surrounded by treasures he felt utterly alone
The dagger in his hand had no use at all
So he dropped it to the ground and let it fall

He had faith that his reign would prevail for many years
Though it came to an abrupt end with agony and malaria infested tears
Thinking the Afterlife would be full to the brink
Parched, he picked up his gilded goblet but could not drink

Extending his arm to reach for heaps of intricate coins of gold
How he wished he could spend them like in days of old
His most favoured boardgame was positioned on the ground
In anger, he knocked down the counters to produce an ear-splitting sound

The Golden Afterlife that had been so painstakingly planned
How he wished he could be the Pharaoh once again and govern the land
The majestic golden chariot stood silently in the still musty air
What use was this splendour if he could not journey anywhere

Hoard of priceless jewellery almost completely carpeted the floor
Though he had an abundance of jewels, he yearned for much more
What use was this plenitude of prosperity and wealth
If he could not make use of these riches for himself

Tutankhamun perched on his golden throne
Though surrounded by treasures he felt utterly alone
Everything encircling him had no use to him at all
So he closed his eyes and let himself plummet to the floor

Iyla

King Tut's Tomb

On the 4th of November 1922 a discovery was made
Howard Carter went exploring for nearly a decade.
Lord Carnarvon who paid for the expedition
Howard Carter had big ambitions.
King Tut's Tomb was discovered with lots of treasure
Howard Carter looked up on it with great pleasure.
There were four chambers all full of different items
Which are buried away from outsiders.
There were model boats, neck rests and ivory game boards
The tomb contained over 5000 items which were all restored.
Soon there was news of a curse
Which made people think of the worst.
All of king Tut's treasures lay in the Egyptian museum of Cairo
Where you can also find the bad-tempered pharaoh.

Jayan



Your Adventures!

Sehej recently took part in the Staffordshire County Junior Chess championship and won the Under 9s trophy. What a brilliant achievement Sehej – well done!



Key Dates

- 16th December (12:30pm) - End of term
- 5th January - Start of Spring term
- 23rd January Chinese New Year
- 2nd February YSC Midsummer Nights Dream
- 20th to 24th February – half term holiday
- 27th February – Start back to school
- 21st and 22nd March – Parents evening
- 6th March – LIII Residential
- 13th March – Science week
- 31st March - Easter service
- 31st - March – End of term



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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