



Mayfield



Summer 2

22/23

Headmasters Foreword

Mini Mayfield

Mini Mayfield & Kindergarten

Transition & Form 1

Lower II & Form II

Upper II & Lower III

Mathematics

Design and Technology

Wellness

Au revoir

Key dates



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very busy few weeks and I sit in my study cooling down after a fun-filled morning at Lower III's Farewell Party. Firstly, they raced the motorised buggies they have been building in Design Technology lessons. Next, we played the annual staff vs Lower III rounders match and I am delighted to say that the staff won for the third year running. Just now, they have been playing Capture the Flag with me in our extensive grounds. This afternoon, they will head down to the Queen Mary's Grammar School swimming pool for the pool party. Finally, after school their parents will arrive for the girls vs mums rounders challenge and the lads vs dads football match, followed by a picnic. Fortunately, we have been blessed with glorious sunshine again – we really have been spoilt by the good weather this term!

As far as examinations go, we are again delighted with our pupils in Lower III, who have achieved our second best set of Key Stage Two SATs results ever – only last year's exceptional class have done better and only by two points. This year's class have

surpassed all the pre-pandemic Lower III results, which is a fabulous achievement. We are also proud of the tremendous progress our pupils in Form I have this year in the national Key Stage One SATs tests for 7 year olds. The results have far surpassed national expectations once again, with 100% of our Form I pupils working at or above the national standard in Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Science. Full details will be given to you in September. I must also report that of the 73 children took LAMDA exams this term, 60 of them passed with a Distinction and 13 passed with a Merit. Our best performance ever! Congratulations to Mrs Bolt and the children for an outstanding result!

As usual, the house competitions have been enthusiastically contested in the epic struggles to attain the ascendancy. The overall Sports Day cup was won by Livingstone. The Sports Days were superbly organised by our sports department according to the traditional format of Early Years, Lower School and Upper School and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The overall winner of the House Cup, based on the number of merits and house points

earned by the children for good work and good behaviour, was also Livingstone. The winners of the House Rounders was Nightingale and the House Cricket was won by Scott. Well done to all the children for being competitive, but always sporting.

Wednesday evening was wonderful. Firstly, it was Lower III's prizegiving, and a new tradition was started with the Head Boy and Head Girl making an unforgettable speech about their favourite Mayfield memories. This was followed by the drama performance, 'The real story of the 3 Little Pigs', by Lower III, one of the best ever, written entirely by Mrs Andrews, with a rocking soundtrack, singing, dancing, jokes and, my favourite, air guitar! It was a night to remember! The moral of the story was 'be kind' and this will be the perfect theme for our school to carry forward into 2023 – 2024.

I am sure you will join me in wishing our Lower III pupils well as they leave Mayfield today, and we wish them every success in their new schools in September. We also wish 'bon voyage' to Mrs Inkster in her relocation to Canada and we wish Mrs

Hayward well in her retirement after 30 years' service at Mayfield.

Next year will be a very special year for Mayfield. In 2024, we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the school which was founded in 1924. We are already organising events to commemorate the centenary, including specially branded Mayfield memorabilia, a whole school photograph and the new library which we are planning to open in the Summer Term 2024. It really will be a year to remember, so have a lovely summer break everyone, I hope you can enjoy a holiday somewhere, recharge the batteries and I look forward to seeing you, safe, sound and healthy, back at Mayfield in September.

Best wishes

Mr M. Draper

Headmaster





Mini Mayfield

Nursery Staff



The children have been busy in their last half term in Nursery. There have been lots of fun activities to finish off the year and we have used the good weather to spend time exploring the outdoor environment.

The half term started with Explorer Day. The children enjoyed building shelters, hunting for animals and going on a journey through sand, water, mud and straw. At the end of the day, we were joined by all the Daddies to celebrate Father's Day.

We had Sports Day out on the Paddock. The children enjoyed taking part in activities including running, throwing and catching and jumping.

Sports Day was followed by a trip to Sycamore Adventure in Dudley. Despite the rain, the children enjoyed exploring the outdoor activities and having popcorn cooked on the campfire.



It has also been a time to prepare for moving to Kindergarten in September. The children have been to visit their new teacher and classroom. They also went to Assembly with all the children in Main School.





Pre-Nursery

Pre-Nursery Staff



Pre-Nursery children were very sensible during the hot weather we had recently. They wore suncream, hats or stayed under the canopy. It was very refreshing playing in the water to keep cool.

Some of the children relaxed in the tent or stayed under the trees in The Knoll that provided shade from the sun. Everybody stayed hydrated by drinking lots of water. Well done, Pre-Nursery.



Kindergarten

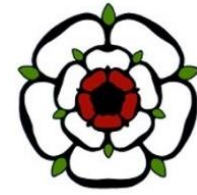
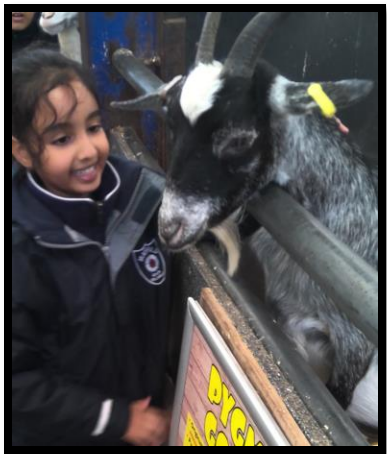
Mrs Smith

Kindergarten had an amazing time visiting Sycamore Adventure this half term. We joined Nursery for a fun filled day of indoor and outdoor play. Despite it being the wettest day in June, the children fully embraced everything.

Activities included; a sensory room, water play, a huge twirly slide which was really high! The pirate ship was a huge hit as well as the table football at lunchtime.

Luckily after lunch, the sun came out and we were able to enjoy a camp fire, sing-song and lots of popcorn! The children were all very well behaved and a credit to the school!





Form I

Mrs Draper

This term, Form I have been investigating how green plants grow healthily in their Science lessons. We have carried out lots of practical, investigative work, enabling us to ask and answer different scientific questions. We have learnt to explain our observations using new vocabulary. We began by planting broad bean seeds. We kept a diary to record the main stages of growth. Firstly, we described the seeds and observed the changes to the seed coat after they had been soaked in water for 24 hours. Next, we observed how the seeds germinated using the food store inside. Then, we measured the length of the root and stem as the seeds continued to grow. With each diary entry, we drew and labelled a diagram to record our observations and then we explained the stage of development as an explanation text. This activity really helped us to understand the stages of a plant's life cycle.

Our trip to the National Forest Adventure Farm helped us learn about animals which are friends or pests to plants. We each took home a broad bean plant to see who could grow the tallest and healthiest broad bean!

We worked in groups to sort and label a variety of different seeds and performed a comparative test to investigate the conditions required for optimal growth. Dissecting a broad bean seed and a daffodil bulb, enabled us to see how a seed germinates. Finally, we learnt about different plants which have adapted to live in extreme weather conditions, such as hot dry, wet and warm or cold habitats.



Transition have worked really hard this half-term. In History, we have been learning about some very inspirational women. Firstly, we found out all about what life was like in America in the 1950s and 1960s and how segregation affected the lives of so many. We learned about the brave actions of Rosa Parks and her role in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, along with how her courage and determination inspired so many others to join in the Civil Rights Movement. We then moved onto Mary Seacole and the children were able to recall the key events of her life and understand how and why she was so inspiring. Finally, we moved on to study Mary Anning and marvelled at her amazing discoveries of Ichthyosaur and Plesiosaur fossils, paving the way for women to be admitted into the Geographical Society of London.

To complement our learning about plants in Science, we went on a trip to the National Forest Adventure Farm. Although the weather was not on our side, we had a great time hunting for farmers' pests and friends in the kitchen garden, decorating a pot, planting a bean and riding in a tractor to spot the scarecrows! We finished the day with some outdoor play in the musical maze and lots of fun in the indoor play area.



Transition

Mrs King



On Wednesday 21st June, Lower II visited the Leather Museum in Walsall. Their Geography topic this term is 'How and why is my local area changing?' Dave, from the museum led them on a tour of Walsall, telling them the changes from the Victorian era, when Walsall was a leather-making town, to today where it is mainly a shopping town. The children were enthralled as he spoke of Victorian working conditions for children in the town and how leather making for horse saddles, bridles and straps was the main industry, until the motor car was invented, then the factory had to start making purses, wallets, handbags and suitcases. Lower II got to see a small part of the town, which still has Victorian cobbles and buildings that would have been around then and are still standing now, as well as some buildings, which have been turned into residential flats and some buildings, which are now ruins from being left after being set alight.

Finally, they went back to the museum and took part in some leather-making activities, making a dog collar, embossing a gold stamp onto light goods leather and looking at the different types of leather used over the centuries. Dave spoke about how people used to kill animals, such as crocodiles for their skin, for handbags, but then metal stamps of their patterns were used instead onto cow leather, which is much better, as cow skin is left over from the meat trade, meaning animals like snakes and crocodiles do not need to be killed. Lower II thoroughly enjoyed the trip and even took home a goody bag of treats!



Form II

Mrs Guest

After the success of Sumayya being a runner up in a national writing competition for Booths Supermarkets and Pobble, Form II have now entered a second writing competition. 'The Incredible Diary of' writing competition allowed the children to write a diary entry in the style of anyone or anything. The entries ranged from their footballing idols, favourite popstars, Paddington Bear to a box of tissues and a packet of Doritos! The competition allowed the children to practise their recount skills, fired their imagination with amazing vocabulary and gave them more confidence to experiment with their sentence structure.

The standard of the writing has been spectacular from all the children in Form II, with everyone taking pride in their own achievements. Fingers crossed that Mayfield are selected as one of the ten national winners over the summer holidays and that all the children see their work published in the competition book. Good luck, Form II!





As our end of year treat, Upper II went bowling in Walsall. They split into teams and added their names to the scoreboard. I didn't realise we had so many famous footballers at Mayfield! We had two rounds and lots of strikes! The teachers played as a team against a group of children. We were clearly the better bowlers, but we were kind and let the children win! Lunch was well-earned and it was lovely to be able to sit together and have a chat while we ate and drank.

We hope you all have a lovely break over the summer holiday, and return feeling refreshed and ready to go in September.



 **Upper II**
Mrs Marston

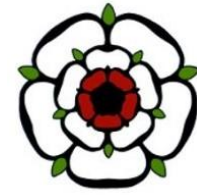


Lower III
Mrs Andrews

Lights, camera, action! With auditions and casting completed before Whitsun, Lower III returned for their final half term at Mayfield full of vigour and enthusiasm, keen to take to the stage to get the show underway. The whole class worked very well as a team, scripts were studied, lines learned and stage positions practised. The cast performed four big songs, each with different choreography, to an excellent standard. Opening night arrived, naturally there were some nerves but the class pulled together, dug deep and delivered an outstanding, memorable performance.

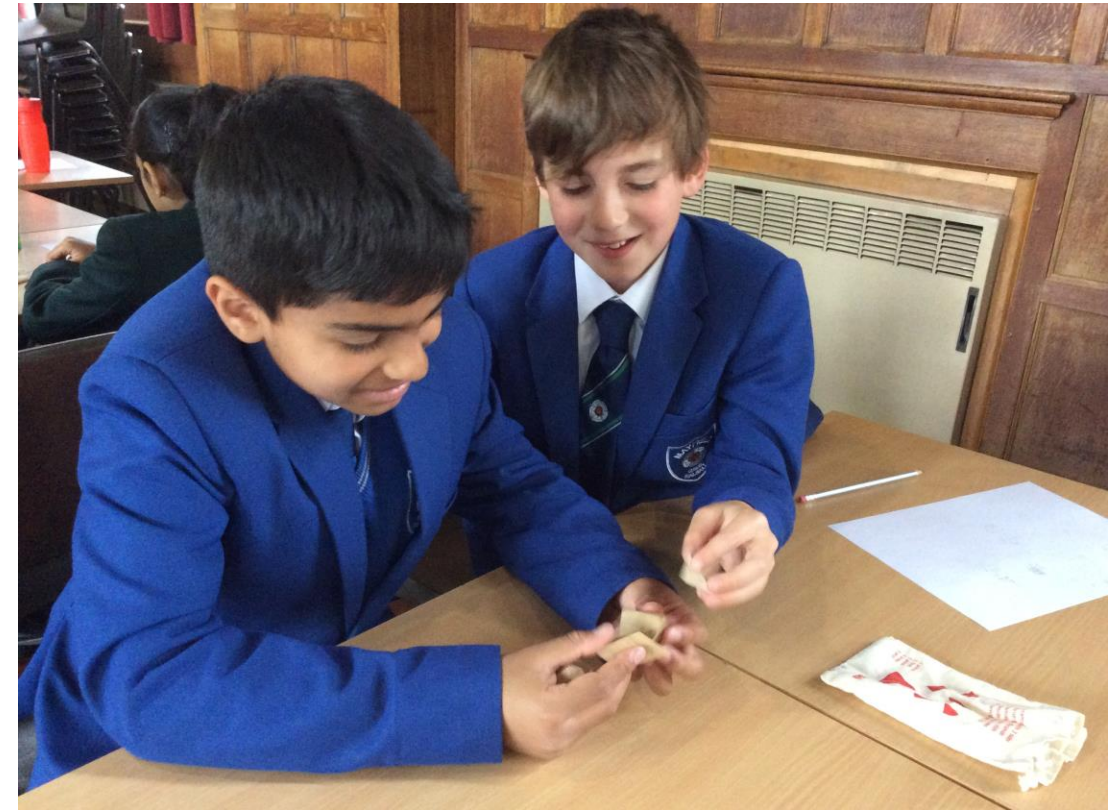
Lower III, you have been a delight to teach during your time here at Mayfield and it has been a great year, You rose to the occasion and delivered. We know that every one of you will go on to great things. Hold on to your time at Mayfield, remember that we are here if you need us and maybe, one day we'll see you, on a mission to Mars... it's the final countdown (or at the Christmas Fayre!)





On Tuesday 27th June, Mrs Inkster took four of our Upper II children to KES to take part in their annual Maths Challenge. Jaya, Aleena, Nicholas and Nova were nervous but excited about the task ahead. On arrival, they completed some warm-up questions. For the first round, they had to complete a cross-number. They found it really tough but did their best. The second round was the relay, where the teams split into pairs and took turns answering questions. All was going well, until Nova and Nicholas ripped a question in half in excitement. They still managed to answer correctly though, so didn't lose a point. The last question was a complete guess, but they still got it right!

Lunch was pizza, which received mixed reviews from the team! Aleena met some old friends at lunchtime, and everyone had a chance to let off some steam. After lunch, they had a Maths lesson with one of the KES staff. They had to work out how to quarter a range of shapes and played a game of Probability Bingo. The entertainment for the last hour was provided by Dr Ken; he talked about Maths and did juggling and card tricks. He also told lots of silly jokes! They didn't win a prize this year, but everyone really enjoyed the experience.



KES Maths Challenge

Mrs Marston, assisted by Jaya, Aleena, Nicholas and Nova





Lower II and Form II



Upper II

Well done to Upper II, who have all produced a felt key ring this term. After identifying the purpose of a key ring and discussing features, such as size and an eye-catching design, Upper II set to work, researching key rings. The children drew a number of designs, before choosing their favourite one. They then made a template. Using this, they cut out the felt and used their sewing skills to attach the felt together. The final results were fantastic!





Mrs Flanagan's Words of Wellness

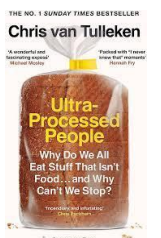
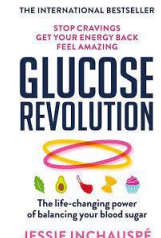
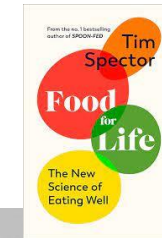
Fantastic Food Facts

Go With Your Gut...

Recently, there have been lots of articles and books published that claim to help us improve our health through what we eat – not just what we eat, but when and how. Two very prominent and well-known figures are Tim Spector and Dr Chris van Tulleken, who will be known to many parents and children from *Operation Ouch!* Another leading voice is Jessie Inchauspe, better known as *The Glucose Goddess*.

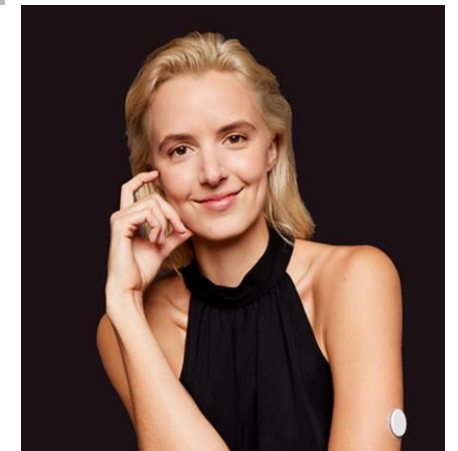
These doctors and scientists have done a huge amount of research into food – and they all agree that a Mediterranean type diet made up of a variety of vegetables and fruits is better for us. They also agree that Ultra Processed Foods (UPFs) that include high fat, sugar and salt content are not good for us. But how do we manage this information when we're all very busy, we have fussy eaters at home or simply don't have the budget to buy these more expensive food options? Here are some top tips below from their work below:

- Canned and frozen vegetables and fruits are just as good as fresh – just make sure there are no added extras like sugar, preservatives or sweeteners.
- Meal Prep – can you batch cook some healthy meals that can be frozen for future use.
- Write a list – then you only buy what you need, and you won't waste as much food.
- Exposure and Perseverance - did you know, children need to be exposed to a food at least 12 times before they like it! Start small and build up to larger portions.
- Offer the "new" food to children and don't encourage or induce them to eat it – that can often make fussy eaters worse. Just start in small quantities to reduce waste.
- Look at the ingredients list; a good way to tell if a food is UPF is to look at ingredients such as emulsifiers, sweeteners, preservatives or added flavours.
- Aim for the 80/20 rule.
- Try to eat fermented food every day – things like kefir, Greek yoghurt, cheese, sauerkraut and sourdough bread.
- Try to eat your food in the following order: fibrous vegetables, protein and fats, then carbohydrates (grains and fruits) - this will help with how your body processes the nutrients and can positively impact your blood sugar.
- Give your gut a break – avoid snacking, especially at night – your microbes clean up your system overnight!



Food for Life
by
Tim Spector

Glucose
Revolution
by
Jessie
Inchauspe



Ultra-Processed
People
by
Chris van
Tulleken



If you want to know more, check out their books.

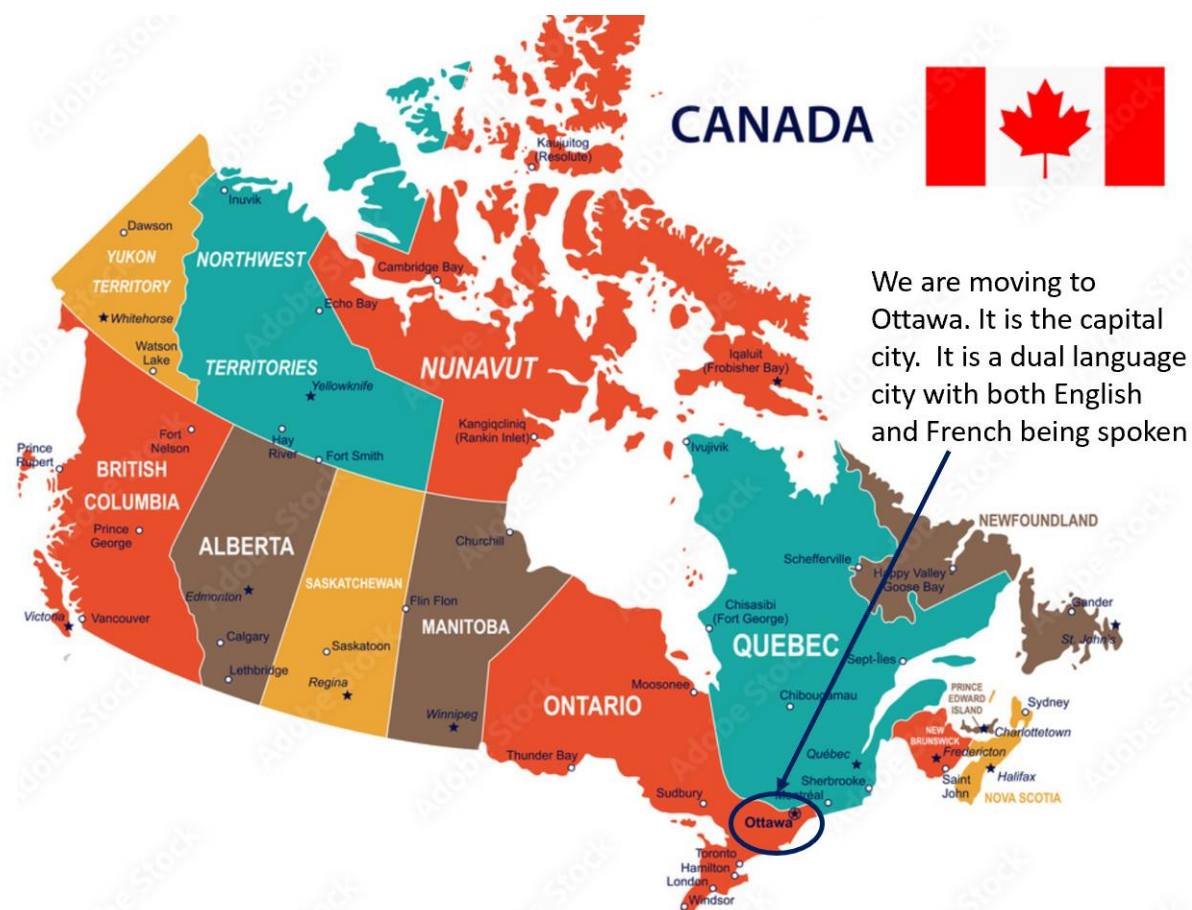




Au revoir

Mrs Inkster

- until we meet again



After seven wonderful years at Mayfield, it is time for me to move on to pastures new. Lots of people have asked me where I am going and what I am doing so here is a brief outline of my next adventure: My husband has been offered a new job which has given us the chance to relocate to Ottawa in Canada. My husband and children are all Canadian citizens meaning I am the only 'alien' in our family. We will be moving at the beginning of August to make sure we have plenty of time to settle the children in before starting a new education system in the autumn or 'fall' as it is called in Canada. Our belongings were packed and shipped at the end of June and are somewhere in a shipping container between here and there!

We will arrive in summer when the temperature is nice and hot but by October snow will be falling. It snows in Ottawa from October to March and temperatures can be as low as -15C during January. It is so cold that the canals freeze and are turned into the world's longest ice-skating rink. There are 7 ski resorts around Ottawa so I'm planning to hit the slopes!

There will be lots of new things to learn about. Although some Canadians speak English, Ottawa is a bilingual city which means half of its residents speak French as their native language. It is also important to learn about wildlife; being bear aware is something everyone who lives in Canada needs to be. Not many bears wander into cities, but they can be found all over the countryside and it is important to avoid getting too close to them! Did you know Canada is the second largest country in the world (behind Russia), measuring nearly ten million square kilometers. If that doesn't mean anything to you, think of this: you could fit the United Kingdom into Canada over **40 times**. It would take you over **four years** to walk its coastline! The city of St John's in Newfoundland (east coast) is actually closer to Walsall than it is to Vancouver (west coast).

Hopefully, I will be able to send you updates of how I am doing and photos of the snow – when it arrives! Until then 'au revoir' - Mrs Inkster



Key Dates

14th July - End of the school year

6th September - Start of the new school year

11th September - Extra-Curricular clubs start

14th September - Upper II trip to Bewdley

19th September - Form II trip to Royal Shakespeare Company

6th October - Nasal Flu (Kindergarten - Lower III)

19th October - Lower II trip to Birmingham Hippodrome (Charlie and Chocolate Factory)

25th October - End of half term

6th November - Start of half term

15th December (12:30pm) - End of term

Ahead of the new academic year we would like to develop the way that your children's birthdays are marked and celebrated with their classmates. If you choose to send a birthday token in, please send a book of your child's choice which will be marked with a bookplate showing that your child has donated the book to the school in recognition of their birthday. This book will be kept within the class for a period and then will move to the school library. This will supersede the current practice of sending in birthday bags and/or confectionery. The book will be a lasting legacy within the school for your child to look back on during their journey at Mayfield.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



MAYFIELD PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Believe It! Achieve It!

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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