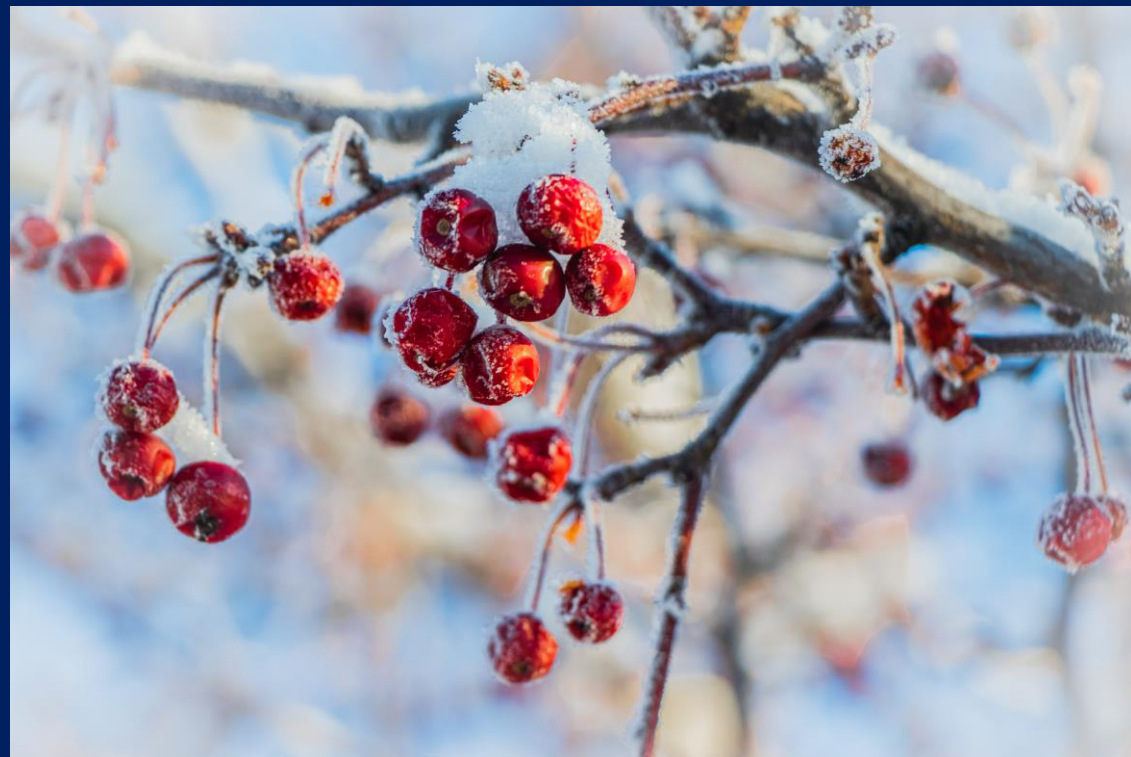




Mayfield



Spring 1
23/24

Headmasters Foreword

Mini Mayfield

Pre-Nursery & Kindergarten

Transition & Form 1

Lower II & Form II

Upper II & Lower III

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Dear Children, Staff, Governors, Parents, Grandparents, Old Mayfieldians and friends of Mayfield,

A belated Happy new Year to you all and welcome to the first edition of the Mayfield Magazine in 2024.

It gives me great pleasure to write to you about a momentous occasion in the history of Mayfield Preparatory School. This year, 2024 marks our centenary. Mayfield Preparatory School was founded in 1924 as a prep school for Queen Mary's High School on the site of Mayfield House on Sutton Road. Mayfield has expanded and evolved into the flourishing school it is now, a leading Preparatory school, both in the West Midlands and nationally.

As a thriving school community, we are planning to mark this event with a

range of celebrations throughout 2024. We have lots of exciting ways in which we shall be commemorating with the children, including whole school trips (main school and also the EYFS Department). Displayed around the school this term will be children's work reflecting inventions and authors from the last 100 years. Children are also designing useful resources and mementoes with centenary logos that can be purchased.

A special centenary whole school photograph will be taken on Monday 10th June. We are also planning to open our new Centenary Library in the summer. We shall also be working together with the PTA to organise special events for our whole school community to join with us in our celebrations, such as a special Quiz

Night on Friday 17th May and our centenary Summer Garden Party on Saturday 29th June.

More details will be coming to you shortly and we look forward to you joining us at as many of these special events as possible.

This week, our assembly theme has been 'democracy' and as such, there are two items of note: each form from Transition to Lower III have elected two Form Captains. Their role will be to greet visitors to the form and collect form prizes in our weekly Awards Assembly. New Form Captains will be elected every term. Secondly, I have been elected as Chair of District 6 (Midlands) of the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS). This is a three-year appointment and a great honour. It means I also sit on a national committee of prep school

headteachers, which really puts Mayfield on the map at a national scale.

Finally, have a wonderful half-term break and I look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 19th February.

Mr M. Draper
Headmaster





Pre-Nursery

Mrs. B Higgins



We have had a lovely few weeks learning about different occupations, including visits from many parents to teach us about their jobs. We have also enjoyed role play, being doctors, dentists, vets, police officers and fire fighters. We have learned about how to keep our teeth healthy and correct brushing as well as foods that are kind to our teeth and bodies. We know that an occasional treat is good for us, too, when we tried some delicious chips from a parent's take-away.



Kindergarten

Mrs. D Smith

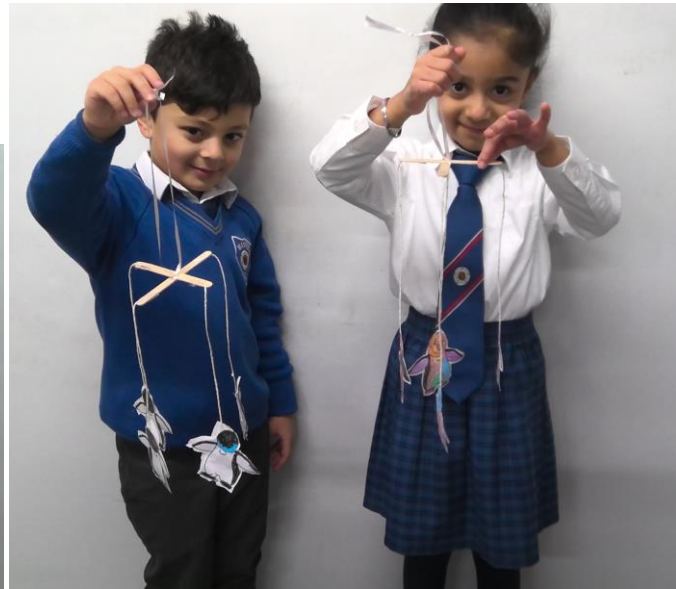
We have had a very busy start to the Spring Term in Kindergarten. This half term, we have been looking at different occupations. We have really enjoyed some of our mummies and daddies coming in to talk to us about their important jobs.

We had Yusuf's daddy talk to us about being a doctor. Kaiya's mommy told us all about her interesting job with money. We really enjoyed Noor's mommy talking to us about teeth.

It was also amazing to welcome in the fire service, who spoke to us about fire safety and let us sit in their fire engine!

We even managed a trip out this half term to Pizza Express! We learnt how to make and cook pizzas. The best part was taking them home to enjoy at the end!





This half term's Geography topic is called 'Why don't penguins need to fly?' Within this topic, we have used maps and a globe to name and locate the world's 7 continents and 5 oceans and to find out lots of exciting facts. For example, did you know that the first person to cross the Atlantic is believed to be a Viking called Leif Erikson? Or that the deepest part of the ocean is called 'Challenger Deep' and is home to some of the world's most weird and wonderful creatures? We have also been focusing on Antarctica and how penguins have adapted to survive the harsh conditions. As part of our learning, we collaged our own Emperor penguins and in DT, we made a penguin mobile. We also made a quick visit to the Sahara desert to explore how camels have adapted and then finally, to the Arctic to learn about the food chain of a polar bear! After all that globe-trotting, we will certainly be ready for half term!

Our intrepid explorers continued the animal theme in our Science lessons, grouping animals according to their characteristics and exploring animal diets. We completed a Venn diagram showing which animals are herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. We are really proud of how enthusiastic and eager to learn Transition have been and we look forward to going back in time in Spring 2 for our History topic. Watch this space, fellow adventurers....



Transition

Mrs King



Form I

Mr Watts



Form I started their Forest School activities this term led by Miss. Roberts every Wednesday afternoon. Fortunately, the weather has been dry enough not to disrupt the lessons too much. The children have been investigating habitats, related to their Science curriculum, looking at pictures of animal habitats and exploring the paddock and woodland to decide where different types of animals may live. Suggestions included foxes, insects and hedgehogs. Form I even made their own habitats, using items that they could use around them, such as grass, leaves, sticks and mud. The children made some effective, cosy little houses for the animals to live in. The following week they discussed what birds might live in the forest, which tied in nicely with the Birdwatch theme that they were studying in Science. They made a birdfeeder by threading Cheerios through a pipe-cleaner for them to hang up at home. They have also completed a scavenger hunt and built a campfire on which they toasted marshmallows. In Maths, we have been learning about money, working out totals and finding the necessary change returned after buying an item at the shop. They enjoyed using the pretend coins to work out how to buy various items, although they thought it was a shame that the money wasn't real!. In PE, we have been playing basketball and learning new moves in gymnastics. We have been participating in cross country runs and learning about how to adapt our bodies when running. We continue to consolidate our understanding of English grammar and have been studying colours in French.

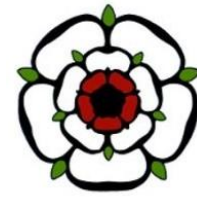
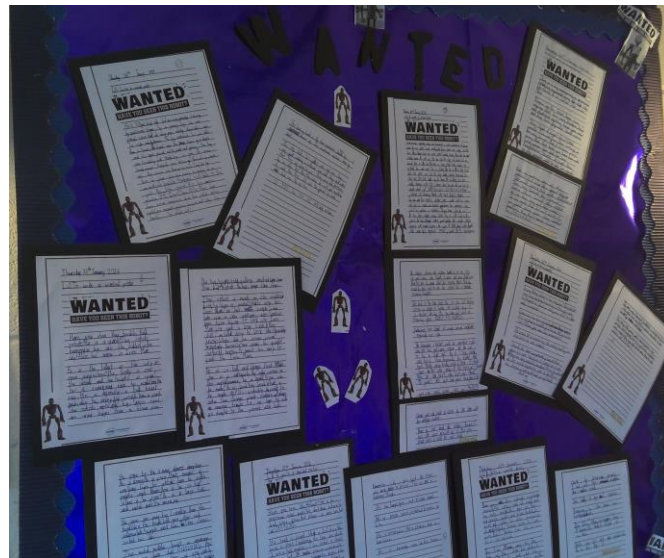
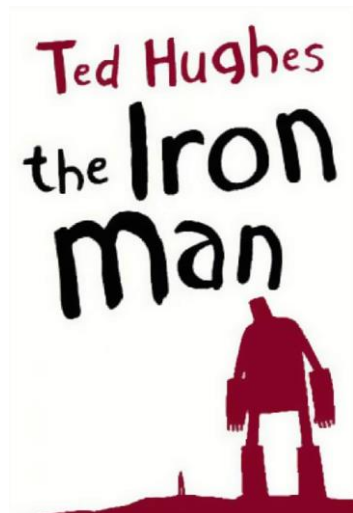


This term, Lower II have been reading The Iron Man as part of their English curriculum. This has provided the children an opportunity to expand their vocabulary and thesaurus skills which they then have applied to their writing.

The Iron Man is a 1968 science fiction novel by British Poet Laureate, Ted Hughes. Described by some as a modern fairy tale, it narrates the unexpected arrival in England of a giant "metal man" of unknown origin who rains destruction on the countryside by eating Industrial farm equipment, before befriending a small boy and defending the world from a dragon from outer space.

The children's focus, was to write the description of The Iron Man, based around a wanted poster. They investigated what vocabulary would attract the reader's interest, how to write and use short sentences for effect and continued to gain confidence in writing in paragraphs.

The results the children produced were spectacular and many of them were exceptionally proud of what they had written. We may have some budding Poet Laureates of the future!



Bienvenue à Paris

As part of our topic on travel in French, Form II have been learning all about the capital city of France, Paris! As well as looking at such famous landmarks as La Tour Eiffel, L'Arc de Triomphe and Notre Dame de Paris, Form II have researched famous people born in Paris and how school life in France differs to their own.

We discovered some fun facts; did you know for example that Emma Watson (Hermione Granger) was born in Paris, and France produces 350 different types of cheese?

The children enjoyed talking about their own visits to France, especially favourite traditional French foods like croissants and baguettes. Finally, we made our own mini Tricolore flags. "Vive la France!"

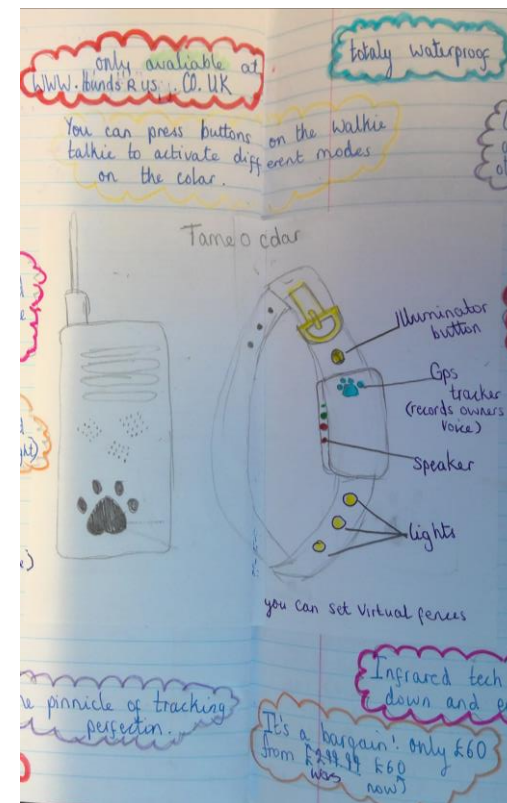




This term, Upper II have been exploring the solar system in Science. We have been creating scale models to show the distances between the planets by using 1 metre till roll and folding it to create the correct scale. Pupils then had to follow very careful instructions to create a scale model to show the size of the planets. There were lots of cross curricular links with Mathematics as pupils had to cut the playdoh into fifths. This was quite easy to start with, but as the pieces got smaller, this proved to be more and more difficult! Pupils have also compared the length of a year on each of the planets. They used the number of days on Earth and then had to calculate and covert this to Earth years. We discovered it takes 165 years for Neptune to orbit the Sun, whereas it only takes Mercury three months to orbit the Sun. They have also been learning about the phases of the moon and tracked its movement creating a moon diary.

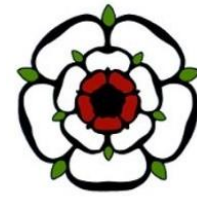


This half term, English Writing lessons have been a hive of activity. Pupils have confidently marketed a product for the pet industry called: 'Tame 'O' Hound' (which links to our whole class text 'Hound of the Baskervilles'). The children have really amazed me with their ability to generate cutting-edge, imaginative ideas, using persuasion as a backdrop, for their own extended pieces of writing. Well done, Lower III, even Lord Sugar himself would be impressed with your marketing and business acumen.



World Book Day is only just around the corner, and this has inspired many budding artists and fans of the 'Tom Gates' book series to produce work in the style of author and illustrator – Liz Pichon. Students used her pen and ink technique to create their own imaginative, illustrative works; using themselves (and their own personal likes) as a basis for their art. The outcomes were incredible and have been proudly displayed in the school's main corridor for all to see. Well done, Lower III, your patience and creativity has really impressed Mrs Hatton.

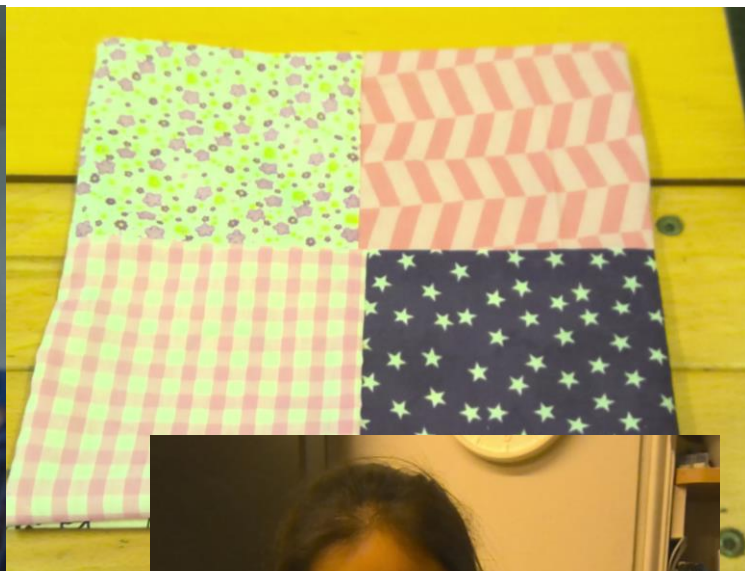




Craft Club

Mrs S Marston

Last term, some children in Upper II took part in the Upper II Craft Club on Friday lunchtimes. We worked on a variety of projects and produced some beautiful pieces. Everyone had the opportunity to create a patchwork cushion cover. These were cut using a template, pinned and stitched on a sewing machine. Taara, in particular, is a natural and I look forward to seeing her designs in Paris in the future! The children also made pom poms, using special pom pom makers, jewellery for themselves or Christmas presents and an origami star. The star ended up being a group effort as it was very challenging!





Birthday Books

Name	Age	Month
Saran	3	September 2023
Maya	3	September 2023
Arian	3	October 2023
Samarjit	6	October 2023
Raye	6	November 2023
Zayn	9	December 2023
Maya	9	January 2024
Ryan	8	January 2024
Nova	11	January 2024
Ambur	3	February 2024
Eesha	10	February 2024
Rosie (Paras)	4	February 2024



Thank you to everyone who has donated a "Birthday Book", and Happy Birthday to all the Mayfield children who have celebrated their special day this term!





Mayfield Musical Maestros



HUGE congratulations to Orin for recently passing his Grade 7, Piano Examination. This is an exceptional achievement, for someone of such a young age, and everyone here at Mayfield is incredibly proud of him. Keeping it in the family, Adrian also passed his Grade 4 Piano and Julian his Initial Test! Well done, boys, we admire your hard work and amazing talent.



MANY congratulations also go to Mannat, Ryan and Ruby who have passed their Prep Test on piano. The comments from the examiner were encouraging and as you can see smiles abound.

We are very proud of all the children who have worked hard and taken exams and passed their music exams. We look forward to celebrating more successes in music at Mayfield in the future.





Swimming Superstar

Nicholas in Lower III competed at the Warwickshire County Swimming Championships held over the past couple of weekends. He won a silver medal plus seven place ribbons, competing in the 12-year-old boy category, which includes boys nearly a year older than him:

200m Butterfly - Silver medal

100m Butterfly - 4th place

50m Butterfly - 5th place

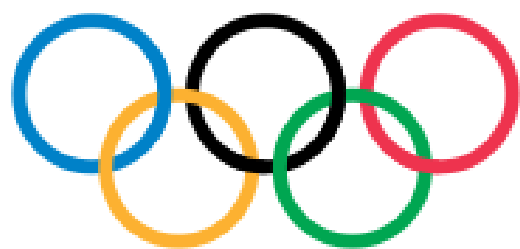
50m Backstroke - 7th place

200m Individual Medley - 8th place

Boys 4x50m Medley Relay - 5th place

Mixed 4x50m Medley Relay - 6th place

Boys 4x50m Freestyle Relay - 7th place



He also achieved personal bests in the 50m and 200m Freestyle, and 200m Backstroke.

Nicholas has achieved the qualifying times for the West Midlands Regional Championships in 50m, 100m and 200m Butterfly, which will held in late April/early May. He is on track to be selected for the Warwickshire County Pathway programme later this year, which is the first stage in the Swim England programme to find the next generation of Olympians!

Well done, Nicholas! What awesome achievements!





Mayfield Centenary Drawing Competition

As part of our Centenary Celebrations, we are inviting the children to draw Mayfield as it looks now in 2024. There will be two winners selected from each Form (one boy and one girl from Kindergarten to Lower III). The winning drawings will be added to our Time Capsule, details of which will be launching soon. All drawings need to be on plain white A4 paper. Please bring in the completed drawings by Friday 22 March 2024.

Key Dates

Monday 19 th February	Start of 2nd half term
Thursday 22nd February	U11 Boys football at Shelfield Academy
Tuesday 27th February	U11 Girls football at Streetly School Year 4 KES Maths Challenge
Wednesday 6th March	Aldridge World Book Day Quiz EYFS Mother's Day Assembly
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day World Book Day Character Dressing Up Day
Friday 8th March	KS2 Girls Inspire Football Festival at Shelfield Academy Parents open afternoon to look at children's books
Monday 11th March	Science Week Young Shakespeare Company Henry V in school
Tuesday 12th March	EYFS Trip to Twycross Zoo
Wednesday 13th March	Parents Evening
Thursday 14th March	Parents Evening
Friday 15th March	Transition - Lower III trip to the Black Country Museum
Wednesday 20th March	Easter Bonnet Parade & Egg Competition EYFS Easter Egg Hunt
Thursday 21st March	Easter service at 9am (HOTO)
Friday 22nd March	House Quiz End of Spring Term



Can You Help?

In preparation for the Centenary celebrations next Summer, we are hoping to gather memories, photos and stories of Mayfield in days gone by for a special edition of the Mayfield Magazine. If you have anything that you are happy to share, please email to info@mayfieldprep.co.uk with the subject "Mayfield Centenary Contributions." Thank you in advance for any support with this.

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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