

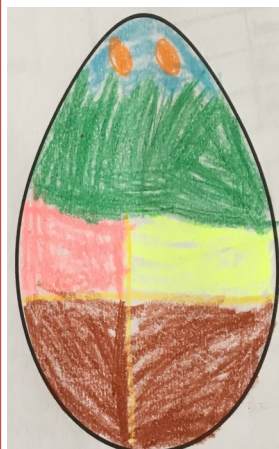
MAYFIELD MESSENGER



Easter 2020



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Happy Easter

Headmaster's Foreword



Dear Parents

It's time for me to reflect on the term and remind you of the highlights. At first, everything seemed normal. After a quiet start to the Spring Term, just after half term we entered our two choirs into the annual Dudley Music Festival. It was a fantastic occasion and we were overjoyed to see the Junior Choir win the Under 8s and the Senior Choir come 3rd in the Under 11s categories. Well done children and the Music Department!

World Book Day was a great success and everyone enjoyed dressing up as their

favourite book character and browsing through the book fair. The teachers held a series of English and SATs workshops for the parents, which were well-attended and very informative.

Suddenly, everything changed, the school closed to all but a few critical workers' children, the world became surreal and we moved into a new phase of school life where the learning has all been done remotely. The teachers have been working round the clock to make the online learning successful and effective in meeting the children's learning needs. I know that many of our children have loved the online activities and embraced the technology. Some have really cheered up the teachers with photographs of their work and one Form II student made us all laugh with the poem she has especially written about her life in isolation! Keep up the

hard work, everybody, and keep as active as you can – I thoroughly recommend Joe Wicks and his PE workouts every day at 9am!

From Friday 3rd April, it's the start of the Easter holidays and I wish everyone a well-deserved break from the intensive online learning. It will all start up again on 21st April, and as I mentioned last week, we are working hard to develop a safe and robust system of 'live' remote teaching, and we are hoping to begin the first sessions as soon as possible after the Easter holidays. We will send out instructions beforehand and let you know the time of scheduled 'live' lessons so that children can link in and make visual contact again with their teachers.

It has been a long, tiring and very strange term. We say goodbye to Mrs Neal, who has decided to take up a part-time role elsewhere, and Mrs Watson and to Linda the Lollipop Lady, who are

leaving for personal reasons and thank

them all for their many years of service to the school. We say goodbye to Mrs Hayward, Director of Music, who is joining a school nearer to her home so that she can spend more time with her young family. Our best wishes go with them all, and we will try to give them a proper send off when things return to normal. Mrs Hall and Mrs Sim will be joining the school office. Between them, they have many years' experience of administration and accountancy, both in

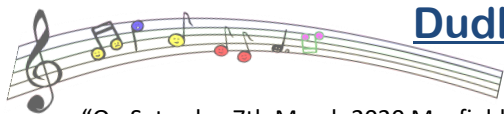
schools and in the NHS. Mrs Gerighty, who has done such a sterling job filling in has now been appointed as the permanent Director of Music. I am sure you will all join me in wishing them all a bright future at Mayfield! I am in negotiations with the Local Authority about a replacement for Linda, but those have been put on hold until things go back to normal, then watch this space.

Finally, we all miss the children dearly and are looking forward to linking in with them as soon as possible. I am still optimistic that the school can re-open

again sometime in the summer and I am holding on to that hope!

Best wishes, take care and keep safe. Stay at home as much as possible, keep your social distance if you have to go out, keep positive and believe that we will get through this, particularly if we stick together, united as a school and as a community, and to be there for each other. Happy Easter!

Mr M. Draper
Headmaster



Dudley Music Festival

"On Saturday 7th March 2020 Mayfield's Junior Choir went to the Dudley Music Festival. When the crowd heard us singing it was like they were in another fantastic world. They couldn't believe their children were singing so well. We sang Hi-yah U-tom-bia! and It's Good To Be Me. When I went up on stage I was nervous but once I started singing all my nerves went away and I just felt calm. Once we finished singing the songs we won a prize! I was very proud. Unfortunately we didn't win the biggest prize but we won the medium sized prize, which is pretty big when you actually think about it. What made it even better was that it was a bright and sunny day. Everyone really enjoyed it and we all look forward to going there again." - **Aila Lower II**

World Book Day

We had some fabulous costumes for World Book Day. A great effort was made by both staff and pupils.

Tia from Transition went to the Sutton Coldfield Bookfest where she had her book signed by Jaqueline Wilson and Nick Sharratt. Tia took part in various activities throughout the day and was honoured to have met them both!



Aldridge Book Quiz



"I couldn't wait for the quiz! We got into Mrs Inkster's car called The Beast and drove to Aldridge Secondary School. It was huge like a maze when we got inside! But still awesome! The four of us were talking about who we were going to face in the quiz. Mrs Kaur, the librarian told us what would happen and we were going to be teamed up with children from different schools and we would make up a team name and do the quiz. These were the categories: Books, Listening, Movies, Walt Disney and Sport. Our team were called The Matilda Winners and the team contained me, Ezra, Daniel and Maya. After the quiz we had some refreshments: orange and apple juice, Oreo and chocolate chip cookies and lots and lots of fruit! After the food and drink everybody went back into the library where we did the quiz and the headmaster announced the winners and the winners were us! We received the Guinness Book of Records 2020! And everybody got a goody bag!" - Abigail

Think Tank

On Wednesday 12th March Kindergarten and Nursery visited the Think Tank. First they enjoyed looking at lots of animals and their skeletons. Then they went to an 'Imagination Playground' workshop, where they had to be engineers and build tall towers. After the workshop the children went into Mini Brum, a small city built specially for children to explore and play. After a quick stop for lunch it was off outside to the Science Garden, where there were lots of activities to explore. Everyone had a great day. - **Miss Roberts**



Meet The Team - Mrs Hatton

As Head of Art, who is your favourite artist?

I have always loved Claude Monet's work, I have visited Monet's Garden and love the way he captured the colours and atmosphere of such a beautiful place.



What pets do you have?

I have 2 cats, Bear and Teddy. Bear went missing for 3 ½ months last year, luckily through social media, we were reunited, he's a real adventurer and often wonders off for 24 hours. Teddy is a homebody and is always there to greet me when I get home from work.



Which of your holiday destinations has been the most memorable?

It is so hard to choose one as I've been very fortunate to travel and share lovely holidays with family and friends. A place that was extremely memorable was an uninhabited island called 'One Foot Island' close to the island of Aitutaki, where I was staying, it was stunning.



Can you tell us a joke?

Why did the student eat his homework?



Because the teacher told him it was a piece of cake!

Who is on your playlist?

I really like Dua Lipa, I went to see her last year in concert.



What are you currently reading?

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

As a child, what did you want to be?

I wanted to be a ballet dancer, I had lessons from the age of 4 to 18.



You've won 5 numbers on the lottery, what are you buying?

I'm not sure how much you would get but I'd definitely go on holiday, I'd love to go to the Maldives.

What's your favourite meal?

My favourite meal is a roast dinner followed by a pudding with custard.

Pancake Day



The Pancake Race's were won by both Scott and Nightingale Houses this year as they came joint first, followed by Livingstone.



Easter Egg Hunt

Kindergarten managed to have an Easter Egg Hunt before finishing the rest of this term at home. As a special treat they were allowed to eat them as soon as they found them!





Ffion's Poem

In the morning I watch in my dressing gown
A wren hopping from plant pot to bush up and down
We put on our boots and coats and set off for a walk
Passing a neighbour turning over the soil with his fork
The leaves rustled and the wind blew
We were all taking about this virus like the flu
We strolled down the lanes where the cars once whizzed by
No jet or motors to mute the birds cry
We now notice the buttercups in the grass
And the beautiful daffodils we once rushed passed

Student Spotlight

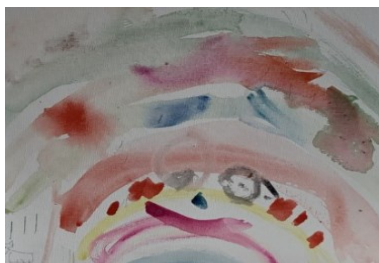
Aarav from Transition has completed a fantastic book review for *The Adventures of Captain Underpants*, with a great picture of Harold! Joban from Upper II is also under the spotlight this half-term for his postcard describing the Titanic.

<p>Author: <u>Bar Pilkey</u></p> <p>Title: <u>The adventures of captain underpants</u></p> <p>What was the story about? <u>two boys called George and Harold that created captain underpants.</u></p> <p>Who were the characters? <u>Harold</u> <u>George</u> <u>Mr</u> <u>captain</u> <u>Krupp</u> <u>underpants</u></p>	<p>What did you like about the book? <u>When George and Harold turn Mr Krupp into captain underpants.</u></p> <p>Draw your favourite picture from the book.</p>  <p>Your rating: <u>10</u> / 10</p>
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<p>Monday 12 April 1912</p> <p>Dear Albert</p> <p>I'm having a marvellous time aboard this luxury liner, and this unsinkable ship (so they say). I'm having the time of my life with Turkish baths, gymnasium, swimming pool, barber and even a squash court. I'm so glad I bought a first class ticket because I can enjoy the luxury of this vessel. I enjoy walking out onto the deck after going for a swim. The food is unbelievable. Grilled Mutton is my favourite. From my room I have a splendid view of vast ocean. My room is one of the best there is with a grand piano, a writing room, and a glass of the finest wine there is. I'm one of over two thousand two hundred people on board. Oh I almost forgot about the smoking room where all the men can have a chat. I better be going. I'm running out of ink.</p> <p>Yours truly Edward</p>	 <p>Mr A Berg 9 Kings Road Hansonville Beleest BM6 9TQ</p> <p>✓statutory word (45+76) ✓parenthesis.</p>
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Rainbows

Some of the children were asked to draw rainbows to show their support for the NHS. We even have a pot of gold at the end of one rainbow. Well done everybody!



Mental Health Award

Mayfield
Preparatory

School in Walsall has recently been awarded Mentally Healthy school status from the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools. The school has had a lot of support from its parent focus group who have delivered workshops and assemblies to inform the pupils and parents about Emotional Wellbeing and how to reduce anxiety during Assessment time. The



initiative that was supported by the Chair of Governors, June Aubrook, also included programs from external agencies and links with other schools in the local area. - **Mrs Higgins**



Can you find the hidden Easter words ?



FUN NEST
 CROSS BONNET
 HYMNS
 BASKET
 SING EGG
 LAMB LENT
 CHOCOLATE
 DAFFODIL
 HOLY TULIP
 RABBIT HUNT
 SPRING
 DECORATE
 PARADE EASTER

A	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E
C	R	O	S	S	L	B	U	E	E
W	R	L	H	B	A	S	K	E	T
C	H	Y	T	D	M	N	A	F	T
D	Y	S	K	G	B	S	W	W	U
E	M	L	S	P	T	T	N	E	L
C	N	X	P	E	J	E	R	L	I
O	S	W	R	P	S	N	V	H	P
R	J	L	I	A	S	N	B	U	D
A	Z	G	N	R	B	O	F	N	Y
T	B	L	G	A	Y	B	Y	T	L
E	V	G	B	D	F	H	I	B	B
J	E	R	D	E	N	E	S	T	B
A	B	D	A	F	F	O	D	I	L
P	S	I	N	G	M	F	U	N	R



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Believe It! Achieve It!

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