



Mayfield



Spring 1
24/25



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Mr Draper

Headmaster's Foreword

Dear all,

I am sitting here in my study, happily reflecting on a long and busy first half term of 2025, with many of the highlights featured later in this magazine. I hope you enjoy reading through it as much as I have.

Mrs Pittaway has organised a number of sporting activities this term. Lower III have been participating in the 'Joy of Movement' every Wednesday since 8th January. Members of Walsall Football Club have been teaching Lower III how a balance of a healthy diet and healthy exercise leads to a healthy mind! The swimming team represented Mayfield at the Walsall Schools Gala on 28th January, where we enjoyed individual successes and strong team performance, finishing

in 3rd place. The Cross Country team has continued to excel in meets at Cooper and Jordan School, Aldridge, and at home at Mayfield. In the final week of term, Lower II, Form II, Upper II and Lower III girls competed in the House Netball and the boys played the House Rugby. We will announce the final results at the end of the Spring term in April after the girls have played the rugby and the boys have played the netball. Well done, everyone!

The Occupations topic in Early Years and the Enterprise Scheme in Lower III have been hot topics of conversation around school and we are very grateful to a number of parents who have generously given up their time to tell our Early Years children about their occupations and to give our Lower III pupils some helpful advice about setting

up and running their own business. We have also been lucky enough to have visits from a police car, a guide dog-in-training puppy and the West Midlands Fire Service, which was very exciting for everyone, particularly when they demonstrated their fire engine sirens and the power of their hose – the wooded area by the courtyard received a thorough watering!

Finally, we finished off the half term with the school discos in Early Years and in the main school hall. DJ Watts was on the mic and credit to the staff for brilliantly leading the children in a number of popular dances, such as the Macarena, Agadoo and Superman by Black Lace!

There are many other highlights to come in the magazine, so enjoy a good read about our vibrant and

flourishing school!

I wish you all a lovely half-term break and look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 24th February.

Best wishes,

Mr M. Draper
Headmaster





Mini Mayfield

Nursery Staff



This half term the children in Nursery have been learning all about different occupations. We have had several visitors come and talk about their jobs. The children have been able to listen to talks and explore the equipment that different professions use. Thank you to all the parents who have helped out with this topic.

In Maths, the children have been learning to count to 10. They enjoyed using games on the computer and sticking activities to practise their skills. They have also been learning to weigh and measure.

The children are continuing to develop their fine motor skills. They have worked on using scissors to cut along lines and holding pencils to write and colour. They worked as a team to make a big shape picture.

Even though the weather has been cold at times, the children have enjoyed wrapping up warm and taking their learning outside. They can play with sand, cook in the mud kitchen, ride bikes and build with bricks. The slide is also a popular activity.

Every day we have a short phonics session. The children work in groups and learn to recognise letters and the sounds they make when we read them.





Pre-Nursery

Pre-Nursery Staff



In Pre-Nursery, we have been learning about all the different occupations. The children have appreciated playing with the different role play area toys. They really enjoyed pretending to be a dentist.

They have also loved getting their hands dirty with messy play. The children have used different types of textures for the messy play activities. They have had so much fun!

The children have enjoyed using the streamers for their physical development lesson. They waved the streamers to the beat of the music.

It has been a busy and wonderful term.



Kindergarten

Mrs Smith

Kindergarten have had a very busy half term learning about people who help us. We had a visit from West Midlands Fire Service where we looked around a fire engine and even got to use the hose! The children loved exploring in the fire engine. Ruby's uncle came to talk to us about his job in a university. We have enjoyed using our role play area this half term, in the form of a police station, vets, doctors and post office.

We have been learning about Chinese New Year and discovered the children were either born in the year of the pig or the rat. We decorated our chosen animal and learnt about their traits and whether ours were the same! As the weather has slowly improved, we have enjoyed spending more time at Forest School and outside, choosing various learning activities. We had a lovely end to the half term at the school disco, enjoying art and crafts, dancing and spending time with each other.





Transition have had another amazing half term filled with lots of fun learning and activities! In Science, we have been learning all about animals including humans and worked scientifically to classify animals into mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds and fish. The children were able to describe key features of lots of animals and also compare and contrast these features. We finished this topic by designing an amazing new species of animal and writing about its body parts and how it uses them to survive.

As part of our Geography topic, we read the story of Jonty Gentoo and also read all about another penguin called Little Pip and her experiences of life in Antarctica. We learned about how penguins and polar bears have adapted to survive in their freezing habitats and then looked at the food chain of a polar bear in the Arctic. Children showed great enthusiasm and interest, and it was lovely to share some of the related books children brought in as part of our story time and lessons. We continued the penguin theme in Design Technology, and we created a polar bear and penguin mobile and a tissue collage penguin.

To celebrate Chinese New Year, we made paper chain snakes and spent time in reading group finding out lots of fascinating facts about snakes.

Finally, we would all like to say a huge 'Congratulations!' To Kaiya, who achieved Gold with her team in the Birmingham City Invitational Gymnastic competition! What a fantastic achievement!



Transition

Mrs King



Form 1

Mr Watts



Form 1 braved the bitter cold weather to venture out for their Forest Schools adventures this half term. We all enjoyed exploring their natural habitats and developing our teamwork skills. We even had fun on the ice in the first week! In Science, we have been learning about different habitats, so we were able to undertake lots of practical activities to support our learning. Despite the weather, we managed to find a few minibeasts lurking under the rocks and in the soil! We heard bird song, too! One of our favourite tasks was to create bird feeders. We collected sticks and twigs to make a fire for popcorn. Using this data we completed a Microhabits survey. One of our favourite activities during Forest Schools was playing games such as Hide and Seek! However, we found the crunching of twigs beneath our feet often alerted the finder to our hiding place. Thank you to Miss Roberts and Mrs. Ahmed for working with us.

We have really enjoyed learning about Money in Mathematics this half term, although we all agree we could do with more coins in order to practise counting it! We have started to learn about creating equal groups, which will help with our understanding of multiplication and division. As you can see from the photographs we made equal groups in a variety of ways! In our RE topic ("Beginnings and Endings"), we have been learning about the Christian practice of Baptism and the Sikh naming ceremony Naam Karan, both of which represent beginnings whilst the extinction of the dinosaurs and December 31st were suggested as endings in class discussion. Well done to Casey and Maddox who won football trophies for being the Coaches' Player of the match and Parents' Player of the match at their football tournament recently.





Form II

Mrs Crosby

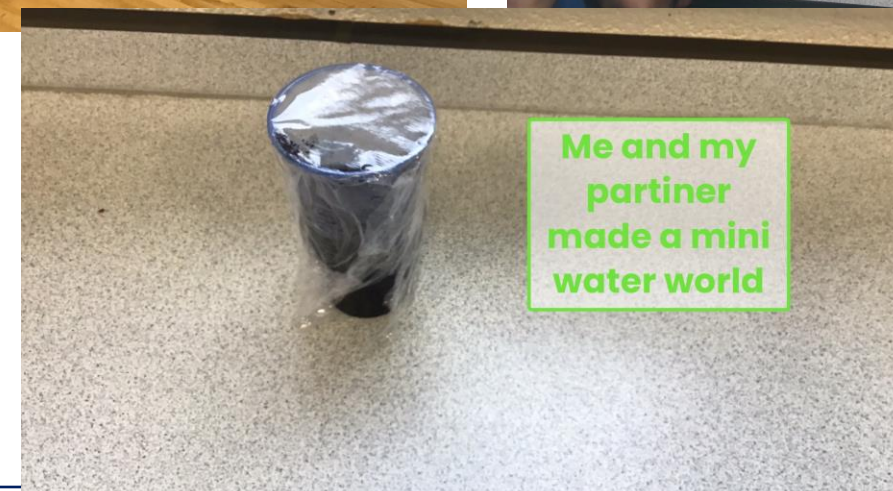
This term, Form II have been learning about States of Matter in Science. They have had lots of fun experimenting with different processes. They started with acting out the behaviours of particles in solids, liquids and gases. Next, they enjoyed weighing the carbon dioxide in fizzy drinks (the best part being able to taste them at the end!)

Moving on to heating and cooling, they timed how long it took to melt chocolate at different temperatures (unfortunately, there was no tasting this time!) During their third lesson, they learnt about wonderful water and how there are four processes involved in changing the state of water: melting, evaporating, condensing and freezing. Leading on from this, they had fun investigating evaporation of water into water vapour by weighing wet towels after a set amount of time in different temperatures. Parents, take note, Form II now know the perfect conditions for drying washing!

Finally, they ended the topic creating their own mini water world to learn about the water cycle. A fabulous half term, Form II Scientists!



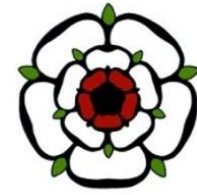
This term, Lower II have been learning about the artist, Henri Matisse, in Art. Henri Matisse was a French visual artist known for his use of colour and shape. He was a draughtsman, printmaker, and sculptor, but is known primarily as a painter. When he was young, he did lots of paintings in the style of Fauvism. In his later years, Matisse began to experiment with cut outs and developed a new style. He made striking collages from these using different coloured paper. Lower II have explored this technique to create their own collages in the style of Matisse. They looked at the features of his work, including the colours and shapes that he created. The children were extremely excited to see their magnificent, inspired work displayed in the Art Room. Mrs Hatton said, "All of Lower II have worked extremely hard on their artwork and I'm delighted with the final pieces. The children should be proud of their bright and vibrant collages!"



Lower II

Mrs Guest





Lower III

Mrs Marston

This term, Lower III are learning about running a business, by working on an Enterprise topic. We have had some visits from parents, sharing insights into their businesses and answering the children's questions. Many thanks to Dr Dubb from Sutton Park Group Practice, Mr Athwal, from Albatross Engineering and Dr Singh, Cardiology Lead. In Mathematics, we have been researching products that we could make, working out the cost of each, producing a business plan and conducting market research. In Computing, we have been designing a logo for our business. In English, we have developed our pitches to Mr Draper, in a bid to secure the money we need. We have also worked collaboratively to create PowerPoints to support our presentations. After half term, we look forward to producing our products in Art and Design Technology and selling them around school, hoping to make a healthy profit! The team that makes the most profit will be the winners. Watch this space for more information! Let the competition for Lord Sugar's (or should we say Lord Draper's) next business partners begin!



"Nothing is art if it does not come from nature." Antoni Gaudi (1852-1926)
In Upper II, we have been learning about the great architect, Antoni Gaudi, in our art lessons. We looked at some of the magnificent buildings that he designed and how he was inspired by nature. Gaudi was a Catalan modernist architect, known internationally as a genius. Gaudi's most famous contribution to art was the trencadis mosaic style. It is a technique that consists of joining together broken pieces of tiles. As he liked the round shapes of nature, and the square tiles weren't the right shape, he thought it was easier to break them. Upper II recreated this style by using paper. They carefully completed their lizards and their fantastic creations are now displayed in the art room, Well done, Upper II, on your fantastic trencadis designs.



Upper II

Mrs Hatton

Gaudi's motto

**"If you want to go fast,
you have to go slow".**





Your adventures!



Congratulations to Jai for achieving a Distinction in his Grade 1 piano practical.



Congratulations to Casey for winning Coach's Player of the Match at Wombourne Allstars Under 7s.



Congratulations to Maddox for winning Parents' player of the Match at Wombourne Allstars Under 7s.



Congratulations to Zayn for winning Junior Player of the year 2024 at David Lloyd – this is the second year that he has achieved the title!



Congratulations to Ronak for exhibiting badges that he designed at the commercial trade show in Scotland.



Congratulations to Kaiya who won gold along with her team at City of Birmingham Invitational Competition.



Look at what your donations can do:



DementiaUK

By making a donation more families affected by dementia will be provided with the life-changing support of our specialist dementia nurses. Our dementia specialist Admiral Nurses are a lifeline to families facing dementia - in the community, in hospitals, on our free Helpline, and in virtual clinics.

£ **60** One-off - could pay for an Admiral Nurse to offer two hours of virtual clinics appointments to families, no matter where they are based

£ **46** One-off - could give an Admiral Nurse access to our online learning platform for a year to help them develop their dementia expertise and knowledge

£ **25** One-off - could pay for a carer to receive an hour of one-to-one support from a dementia specialist Admiral Nurse on our free Helpline

£ **15** One-off - could cover the telephone costs of five families affected by dementia calling our free national dementia Helpline

Fundraising Totals

Fundraising Total:

£1405 (56%)

£2500 TARGET

Thank You Mayfield!

Currently I have raised 56% of my target. Every penny adds up so thank to everyone who has generously sponsored me and taken the time to wish me luck!



Mrs Flanagan's Training Update

MARATHON BLOG



THANK YOU



WOW, Mayfield, you are awesome! I am truly grateful for all the kind words of encouragement, motivational messages and incredible charitable donations to Dementia UK.

This week, I did my longest ever run of 20 miles – it was hard, but I was really happy with the improvement in my pace and the energy I still had left at the end! No aches and pains the day after either!

I have new running shoes so they have given me a boost, plus I've got my energy gels and baby fruit pouches to fuel me through the miles, and an amazing playlist that I will be singing along to!

Our motto at Mayfield is "Believe It, Achieve It!" and I keep thinking of this as I'm training. Last week, I wrote on my hand "You CAN do it!" and I kept looking at it as I was running. This week it was "You ARE doing it!"



Dementia UK: Mrs Flan's Marathon Fundraiser



Key Dates

Friday 14th February 2025

15:30 End of half term

15:30 School Disco

Monday 17th February 2025

08:30 Start of half term Holiday Club

Monday 24th February 2025

08:30 Start of 2nd half term

Friday 28th February 2025

12:30 Young Voices

Tuesday 4th March 2025

11:00 Upper and Lower School Pancake Races

14:45 EYFS Pancake Races

Wednesday 5th March 2025

08:30 Year 4 KES Maths Challenge

Thursday 6th March 2025

08:30 World Book Day

Friday 7th March 2025

09:00 Science Week Poster Competition

Monday 10th March 2025

08:30 Science Week

08:30 South Staffs Water Education Programme

Thursday 20th March 2025

09:00 Young Shakespeare Company Hamlet in school

Friday 21st March 2025

08:30 Comic Relief Red Nose Day

Monday 24th March 2025

08:30 Lower III residential trip to Oakerwood

Friday 28th March 2025

09:00 Year 5 Hydesville Maths Challenge

Monday 31st March 2025

08:30 Schools Football Week

Wednesday 2nd April 2025

08:30 Lower II and Form II trip to Craven Arms Iron Age Museum

Monday 7th April 2025

09:00 Easter Bonnet Parade

09:00 Easter Egg Decorating Competition

Tuesday 8th April 2025

14:45 EYFS Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesday 9th April 2025

15:30 Easter Movie Night

Thursday 10th April 2025

09:00 Easter service

10:00 House Quiz

Friday 11th April 2025

15:30 End of Spring Term



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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