



Mayfield



Spring 1
25/26

Headmaster's Foreword

Nursery

Pre Nursery & Kindergarten

Transition & Form 1

Lower II & Form II

Upper II & Lower III

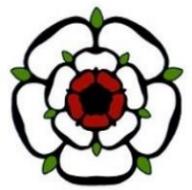
Music

Science competition, your adventures,

Maths challenge, Birthday books

Key dates





Mr Draper

Headmaster's Foreword

Dear all,

As I compose this introduction to the Mayfield Magazine, I am looking out of my study window during a rare lull in the near constant rainfall we have experienced so far this half-term (with the exception of the bucketful of snow we experienced at the beginning of January thanks to Storm Goretti). as I gaze at a scene of beauty, watching Lower II and Form II happily spinning the rugby ball around on the Paddock and Form I romping through our Forest School in their coats and wellies. Let's reflect on a long and busy first half term of 2026, with many of the details featured 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 7th January. The swimming team represented Mayfield at the Walsall Schools Gala on 27th January, where we enjoyed individual successes and a strong team performance, finishing in 5th place out of 17 schools competing. The Cross-Country team has continued to excel in a meet at Lindens, Streetly, with the final coming soon at Aldridge Airfield. In the final week of term, boys and girls from Lower II, Form II, Upper II and Lower III have competed in the House Netball and House Rugby. We will announce the final results at the end of the Spring term after the girls have played rugby and the boys have played netball.

We have also been lucky enough to have a visit from the West

Midlands Fire Service, who taught Form II fire safety in their Sparks programme. Mr Watts also organised Walsall Street Teams and the NSPCC to teach our children how to keep themselves safe, while Mrs Crosby has been teaching the children how to keep themselves safe online.

Finally, we finished off with the school discos in Early Years and in the old school hall. Credit to the staff for having the energy to lead the children in a fun-filled boogie at the end of a long half-term!

As I finish, the rain has started up again, torrentially, and as the children hurry inside, I think to myself, 'At least the school field is well-watered and the gardens and flower beds are lush and thriving!' 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 23rd February.

Best wishes,

Mr M. Draper
Headmaster



Mrs Dallaway, Mrs Whatmore, Miss Mallen

It has been a pleasure welcoming the children back to Nursery after the Christmas break. They returned with such enthusiasm and confidence, settling quickly back into routines and showing how much they enjoy learning together. I am very much looking forward to the rest of the term and school year ahead.

This term, our topic is 'Super Stories and Traditional Tales', which has already provided many exciting opportunities for learning across the EYFS curriculum. We have enjoyed exploring the story *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, bringing it to life through imaginative play and hands-on activities. The children loved investigating and taste-testing porridge, counting out cereal for the bears and developing their understanding of "too much" and "just right."

We have also read *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, which inspired a fantastic sensory barefoot walk. This activity encouraged the children to explore different textures, build confidence, and use rich vocabulary as they described what they could feel.

In phonics, the children have made excellent progress in their Speed Sounds lessons, showing growing confidence with listening skills, sound recognition, and early blending. To support early writing, we have been getting our bodies strong for writing through Kinetic Letters animal poses, helping to develop core strength, coordination, and fine motor control.

Overall, it has been a busy and rewarding half term, full of curiosity, creativity, and learning, and we are excited for all that is still to come.





Pre-Nursery

Mrs Rahman

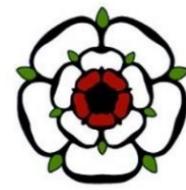
It has been a great start to the new term. The children have come back with such excitement and ready to explore new experiences.

This term, we have been focusing on traditional tale stories. We started off by reading the three little pigs. The children explored with a variety of materials and have made a collage of a pig using paper plates. We have also read Little Red Riding Hood; the children picked out yummy and healthy treats for Grandma's basket. We also read Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We looked at the different sizes for maths.

The children have enjoyed using the bean bags for our physical activity, and they have really enjoyed musical movements.

The children loved getting involved in messy play. We have loved our music lesson with Mrs Gerighty. The children have enjoyed looking at a book with their key workers.

It's been a very eventful half term, and we are looking forward to the next one!



Kindergarten

Mrs Young

Kindergarten have had a very busy half term learning about 'Super Stories'. The first story was Owl Babies. After reading the book, the children made their own pictures of owls. Next, the children read The Gingerbread Man together and enjoyed baking some gingerbread men. They also made puppets and joined in acting out the story. When they read The Three Little Pigs the children made models of their houses. They also found out about the different kind of houses people live in and what they are made from. As Valentine's Day approached, they read Guess How Much I Love You.

The children have worked hard in their Phonics lessons and have learned to read and write many new sounds. They have also started to learn about full stops and capital letters.

In Maths, the children have continued to learn about numbers to 20 and have enjoyed doing some weighing and measuring.

In Music, the children have been learning to tap out simple rhythms. They have used different percussion instruments to practice this work.

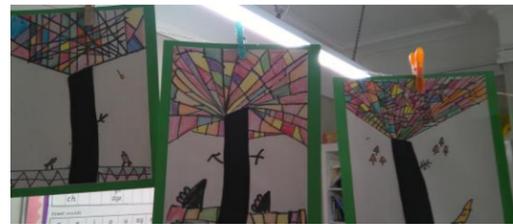
The first half of the Spring Term ended with the fun of an Early Years Spring Disco.



Transition embarked on a colourful journey into the world of Pablo Picasso and Cubism during their art lessons this half term. The children have been diving into the imaginative and sometimes wacky world of Cubism, where everyday objects and faces twist and turn into fantastic shapes and angles. The children were introduced to some of Picasso's most famous artworks and learned how he saw the world in a unique and creative way.

Inspired by Picasso, the young artists set off on their own creative adventures, the children created vibrant pieces of art, transforming their simple ideas into incredible masterpieces. They learned how to draw from different perspectives and how to express themselves with the abstract shapes and lines typical of Cubism.

The children are absolutely loving it," said Mrs Guest. "It's wonderful to see their enthusiasm and how they're thinking differently about art. They're not just creating; they're exploring and experimenting." These creative classes have provided more than just fun; they're helping the children develop essential skills. Learning about Cubism has encouraged the pupils to use their imagination, improved their fine motor skills, and deepened their understanding of different art styles. It has also given them the confidence to express themselves uniquely.



Form I
Mr Watts



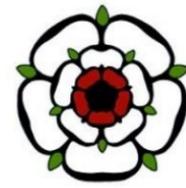
Form I have started their Forest School activities in earnest this term. Typically, the weather has worsened just as we were about to venture out! However, we braved the elements and enjoyed our sessions so much that we were excited to go out again! In Science, we have been learning about different habitats, 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, leaves and twigs to make a comfortable habitat for minibeasts. Using our acquired data, we will complete 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.

In our PE lessons, we have learnt how to perform specific movements to enhance our spy dances to the James Bond theme. We also used effective balances in gymnastics and practised tennis. We have really enjoyed learning about money in Mathematics, and finding totals and change as required. We have used role play to imagine scenarios as customer and shopkeeper, buying items and giving back change. We have also started to learn about creating equal groups, which will help with our understanding of multiplication and division. In our RE topic "Beginnings and Endings", we will be learning about the Christian practice of Baptism and the Sikh naming ceremony Naam Karan, both of which represent beginnings. We debated whether a wedding day was an ending or a beginning, or whether December 31st was a beginning or an end. In Humanities, we are learning about famous people, including Neil Armstrong and Mary Seacole. In Computing, the children are creating their own Powerpoint presentations and in French, we have been learning about the alphabet and pronouncing all the letters correctly. It has been a very busy half-term!



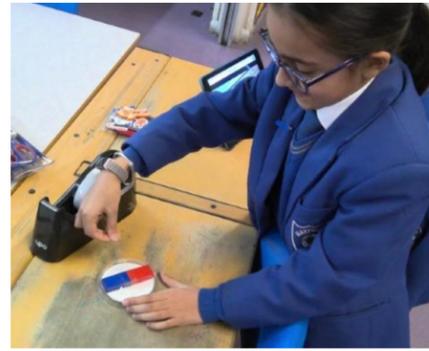
Transition
Mrs Guest





Form II

Mrs Andrews



This term, Form II have been learning about States of Matter in Science. The children have had lots of fun experimenting with different processes including melting ice-cubes, under different conditions, and looking at the melting points of different chocolate types. A fabulous half term, Form II Scientists...you have amazed me with your mature approach to practical work!

As part of the Year 4 Sparks programme, Form II were visited by a team of firefighters from the West Midlands Fire Service.

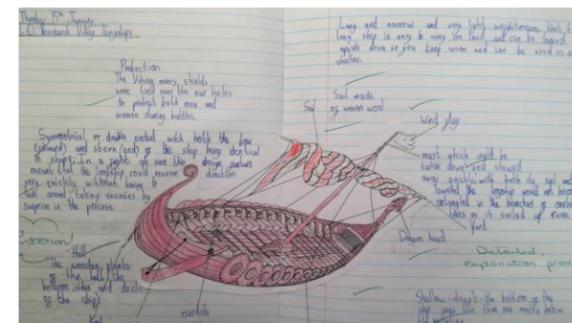
The children wowed the officers with their knowledge of health and safety in and around the home. They were able to identify potential fire hazards and looked at ways in which they can keep themselves and each other safe. Our workshop also covered water, as well as car and road safety.



This half term, Lower II have been working hard in Science to investigate forces and magnets. We began by identifying push and pull forces and then carried out an investigation into friction, using some toy cars and a ramp covered in different materials.

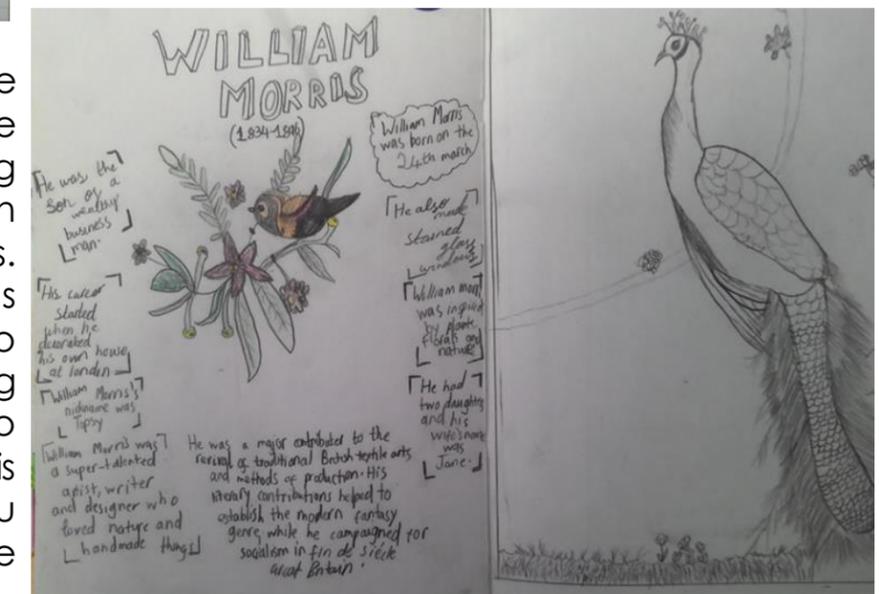
We then explored magnets and carried out a range of activities such as using a magnet to move a 'paper clip car' around a racetrack and a maze. We even had a go at making our own compass from a bar magnet and a bowl of water and we are pleased to say that after checking the accuracy with a real compass, our compasses were spot on! We were very proud of ourselves, and we all know which way is North in our classroom! We finished off our investigations by testing the strength of different magnets by measuring how far away they needed to be to attract a paper clip and by testing how many paper clips the different types of magnets could hold. We have thoroughly enjoyed putting our practical Science skills to the test!

In Humanities, we have been learning all about the Vikings and the attack on Lindisfarne, writing a fantastic newspaper report. We also explored the design features of a Viking longship and longhouses and found out about the reasons why they moved from raiding and invading to settling. A super half term's work!



In Humanities, the children have been learning all about the Vikings, conducting independent research on longships and long houses. Working analytically, pupils considered evidence relating to Alfred the Great; drawing their own conclusions as to whether he deserved this prestigious title or not. Thank you for your hard work and sensible contributions, everyone!

In Art lessons, the children have been looking at the prints of British textile designer, William Morris. They have produced some intricate and detailed works of art, taking inspiration from nature and floral designs.



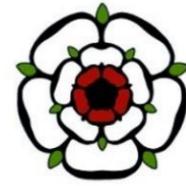
Lower II

Mrs King





This term, in Science, we are learning about forces. So far, we have studied the effects of gravity on a range of different objects. We planned and carried out an investigation, involving dropping objects from the balcony and timing how long they took to fall. We thought about when friction can be helpful and when it is better to have less friction. We did a mini-investigation involving picking up jelly cubes with chopsticks. The one with oil was really tricky to pick up! We also investigated which shoe would be best to purchase for walking on a wet floor and not slipping over. We used Newton meters to measure how effective different types are. We can now make out recommendations to our client, who needs shoes to put on after ice skating.



Lower III

Mrs Hawthorne

This half term, Year 6 have enjoyed participating in the Joy of Movement programme, delivered over six weeks by Sam (from Walsall football club). The sessions have been both informative and inspiring, offering pupils a clear understanding of how healthy lifestyle choices can positively influence their wellbeing now and in the future.

Throughout the programme, pupils explored the importance of daily physical activity and learned how much movement is recommended to support strong bodies and active minds. They also developed a solid understanding of the main food groups and how to balance them to create a nutritious, healthy diet. These ideas were presented and practised in a lively and engaging way, helping pupils recognise how the choices they make each day can contribute to long-term health.

In addition, the children learned about the vital roles of sleep and hydration. They discussed how good routines, plenty of water, and rest can support their energy levels, concentration, and overall resilience.



Upper II

Mrs Marston





Music



Kindergarten have been listening to music in different time signatures. They are now preparing to accompany music that has 4 beats in a bar; with good listening and a positive focus, they are going to play the jembe drums on the strongest beat, which is the first beat in each bar.

The children in the Nursery enjoy their singing session. As a reward for their focus and willingness to join in, a child can receive a sticker, move up the ladder and have the opportunity to cuddle a music buddy during this singing session.



Lower II are the youngest class who are playing recorders in school. They are learning not just to blow into the recorder to produce a note but to use the tongue to produce a crisp, clear tone.

Here they are playing along to a song called 'Popular' from the musical 'Wicked'. They are using 3 notes: B, A and G. They play along as the named letter notes fall on to a line on the screen accompanied by instrumentation and a very clear rhythm - what can go wrong??!!!

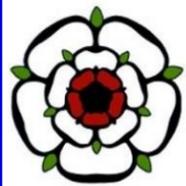
They must tongue the note as the letter name hits the line, not in 'mid-air', falling. The aim of the lesson is for the children to become familiar with the fingering for the notes, B, A and G.

Lower II had great fun playing along to this *popular* tune found in 'Wicked'.



Well done, Maira and Gamu!!
They have both passed their piano exams, receiving lovely comments from the examiner. Gamu received a Merit for her piano playing.





Science poster competition

Mrs S Draper

British Science Week 9th - 13th March 2026

British Science week is a celebration of all things STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) related. This year's theme for events is 'Curiosity: What's your question?'

At Mayfield, each class will take part in a practical investigation lesson in class led and organised by the Primary Science teaching Trust.

As part of our passion for independent learning, we are pleased to launch this year's poster competition. Pupils are asked to design and create a poster on the theme of 'Curiosity: What's your question?' The emphasis is on what makes your childhood positive? And what will a positive childhood look like in the future? However, the possibilities are endless, with suggestions ranging from; Why do stars twinkle? How are rocks made? Why can't penguins fly? Why do family members look similar?

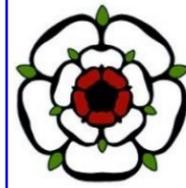
Please see the email that was sent for rules and prize information.



Birthday Books



Thank you to all who continue to donate Birthday Books as a way of celebrating your child's Birthday – we have a birthday book-shelf where books are displayed before they become a permanent part of the school library. Please write in the front of the book your child's name and their age. We do this in place of bringing in cakes/treats as a way to encourage a love of reading.



Mathematics News

Mrs S Marston



In November, Lower III and Upper II took part in the Primary Mathematics Challenge, a national competition celebrating the fun of maths. We achieved lots of gold, silver and bronze certificates and four children qualified for the Bonus Round. This took place recently; we are eagerly awaiting the results.

Look out for further Mathematics Challenges this year. Upper II and Lower III will also compete in the more challenging Junior Mathematics Challenge and our children in Lower II and Form II will take part in the First Mathematics Challenge, later in the year.

We also have some in-school maths quizzes planned for this year. Watch this space!

Your adventures

Congratulations to Dahlia for swimming at the County Championships recently, we are really proud of you and hope you have many successes ahead of you!



Key Dates

Monday 16th to 19th February	Start of half term Holiday Club
Monday 23rd February	Start of 2nd half term
Monday 23rd February	School Pancake Races
Tuesday 3rd March	House Assemblies
Thursday 5th March	Science Week Poster Competition deadline
Thursday 5th March	Poetry by Heart Finals
Friday 6th March	World Book Day
Monday 9th March	Science Week
Monday 9th March	QMGS STEM Workshop for Upper II
Tuesday 10th March	Science Week Online Workshops
Tuesday 10th March	Cross Country Finals at Aldridge airfield
Wednesday 11th March	First Aid Workshops Lower II - Lower III
Wednesday 11th March	Nursery and Pre-Nursery Mothers' Day
Wednesday 11th March	Kindergarten Mothers' Day
Friday 13th March	Easter Colouring Competition launch
Friday 13th March	Mayfield Cross Country
Monday 16th to 20th March	Enterprise Scheme Sales Fair Lower III
Wednesday 18th March	World Maths Day
Thursday 19th March	School Council meeting
Thursday 19th March	Midsummer Night's Dream play to Upper School
Friday 20th March 2026	Comic Relief Red Nose Day
Monday 23rd March	Easter Colouring Competition Deadline
Tuesday 24th March	Easter Bonnet Parade PN - FI
Tuesday 24th March	Egg-cellent Characters Competition LII - LIII
Wednesday 25th March	Easter Movie Night
Thursday 26th March	Easter Service
Thursday 26th March	EYFS Easter Egg Hunt
Friday 27th March	House Quiz
Friday 27th March	End of Spring Term
Monday 30th March - Details TBC	Start of Easter Holiday club
Tuesday 14th April	Start of Summer Term



Thank you for taking the time to read our magazine, we hope it has provided an enjoyable insight into the half term.

Mayfield Prep, Sutton Road, Walsall, WS1 2PD

Tel: 01922 624107

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