

# MAYFLOWER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Although the Spring Term is always the shortest term of the year, it is still packed full with the same amount of work, activities and events as the other two terms and in this edition of our newsletter, you will see that is the case again this year.

I am extremely proud of the improvements we have made with both student and staff attendance this year. This was recognised early in January when Mayflower were announced as being in the top 25% nationally for attendance during the Autumn Term 2023.

As with any term we have some staff who are moving on and I wish them well as well as thanking them for their time and effort over a number of years. We are excited to welcome five new teaching staff and three new pastoral staff who join us at the start of term.

We have had great sporting success this term with the U16 girls' basketball team winning the Essex Cup. It was their 3rd final in three years and they beat Fitzwarrmark's team who had won the previous two finals. I was so proud watching a team who showed real determination to get the job done! We also recently competed in the South Essex Swimming Gala where we had some excellent individual performances and were crowned winners in two year groups and overall champions!

The end of the term has been packed with our PPE exams for years 13 & 11. I know the students have worked really hard for these mocks and will continue to do so as we approach exam season in the middle of May.

The personal highlight for me this term was being able to go on the Mayflower Ski Trip. It's great being able to offer these types of trips and my thanks goes out to all the staff who gave up their holiday to run such an amazing school trip. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and having been on over fifteen ski trips in my career this was easily the best.

At the end of term we have our celebration assemblies where we acknowledge the academic success of students and award those with the highest attendance to school. The volume of awards and certificates given out is a real indication to the positive commitment and attitude so many of our students have.

Congratulations to those who picked up an award and to those who didn't please make that your target for the summer term assemblies.

Have an enjoyable Easter break and I look forward to seeing the students return on Tuesday 16th April

Damian Lee



## International Women's Day

International Women's Day is observed annually on March 8th. This is a significant event as it provides an opportunity to examine issues of gender equality within a broader context. It also holds historical importance within the A Level History course. Students explore how the 1917 International Women's Day protests in Russia served as the catalyst for demands that Tsar Nicholas II abdicate the throne, leading to the establishment of a democratic system.

As part of the broader 'Women's History Month', which occurs throughout March, students have been tasked with delving deeper into this subject. Through their Google Classroom pages, all History students have been given access to an assignment focusing on notable women throughout history. These women come from diverse backgrounds, including the fields of mathematics, science, politics, and the arts. Their task was to conduct in-depth research on a significant woman of their choice and present their findings in their preferred format. Please find below some examples of our outstanding entries!

### Year 10 Bronze DofE Training Day

Miss Gunnell

On a rainy Saturday at the start of March, 135 year 10 students dedicated their day to participating in a DofE training session. Throughout the day, the students engaged in various sessions, acquiring vital skills to ready themselves for their expedition in May. They followed a comprehensive training program, covering navigation skills, expedition equipment, food and menu planning, first aid, and lastly, plotting their expedition routes.

As the day drew to a close, parents joined us to receive information about the expedition. We were truly touched by the overwhelming parental support; the hall was packed to the brim! Thank you.



## First News Visits The Progress Centre

On Monday 18th March, the Progress Centre welcomed two members of the production team from First News. As subscribers to the First News newspaper, they were keen to understand how we utilise the resources in our classrooms and valued our feedback.

Students at Mayflower High School have thoroughly enjoyed access to the First News newspaper. Its vibrant and captivating images, paired with manageable portions of interesting and relevant news, have brought reading to life and made it accessible for students, particularly those with Dyslexia. The cream-coloured paper and clear print font have also ensured that all students can engage with the material.

This visit also provided a fantastic opportunity to inquire about the workings of the journalism world and pursuing a career in journalism.



These stories are from pages 2 and 9 of this week's issue of *First News*. Read the stories, and then try the puzzle. To help you, we have underlined the answers to the crossword puzzle clues in the stories – but you will need to match the correct word with each clue!



FOOD NEWS

Taste for frogs' legs threatens species



Fried frogs' legs

A group of over 550 experts has warned that Europe's taste for frog legs is threatening frog species. They wrote to French President Emmanuel Macron, asking the EU to stop the excessive hunting of frogs, especially in Asia and southeast Europe. France and the EU protect their own frogs from hunting yet import 80–200 million frog legs from other countries each year. The experts also highlighted the important role frogs play in nature and say that their loss could cause serious problems, including more mosquitoes.

Big price to pay for fish

A drone view of a fish farm. Toxic algae near the coast in Chiloé, Chile, led to the death of six million fish in just one incident, which meant that 4,500 people lost their jobs



A NEW report looking into the deaths of fish in fish farms says that the number of mass death events is increasing, and the number of fish that die in each one is going up too.

The UK, Norway and Canada are some of the biggest producers of farmed salmon in the world, and it's a huge business. However, there are lots of welfare concerns about keeping a migratory species trapped in pens, and farmed salmon also suffer from more problems with disease and lice than wild salmon.

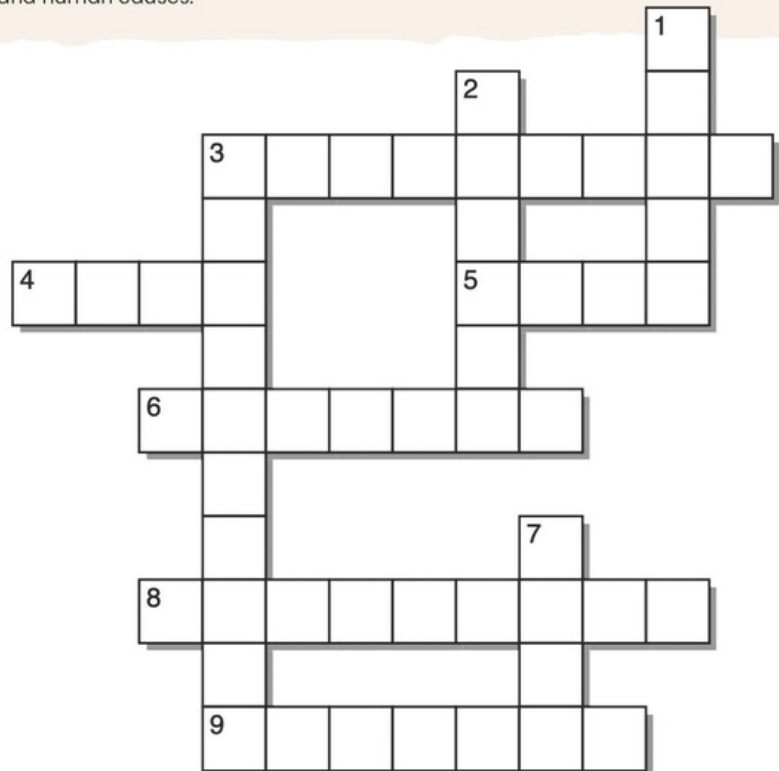
A time when lots of fish die at the same time is known as a mass mortality event (MME). A new study published in *Scientific Reports* looked at records of MMEs in Norway, Canada, the UK, Chile, Australia and New Zealand, which together produce over 92% of the world's farmed salmon. The numbers of fish lost to MMEs are staggering – from 2012–2022, 24 million fish died in the UK, but it was 153m in Canada, 173m in Chile and an incredible 477m in Norway. The authors say that the fish farming industry tries to blame climate change for MMEs, but that the causes tend to be a mix of environmental and human causes.

ACROSS

- 3) An animal that moves location every year (adjective 9)
- 4) Small areas with fences around them in which animals are kept (plural noun 4)
- 5) A large number of things (noun 4)
- 6) The activity of chasing and killing wild animals (noun 7)
- 8) Death on a large scale (noun 9)
- 9) Classes of plants or animals whose members have the same main characteristics and are able to breed with each other (plural noun 7)

DOWN

- 1) Areas of land where crops or animals are kept (plural noun 5)
- 2) A large, silver-coloured fish (noun 6)
- 3) Small, flying insects that bite people and animals in order to suck their blood (plural noun 10)
- 7) Small parasitic insects that live on the skin of mammals and birds (plural noun 4)



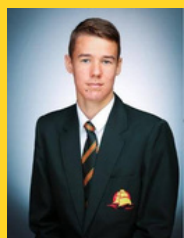
Congratulations to our Jack Petchey winners this term.



Ruby Toll, in Year 10, earned her award for her dedicated support with the Year 7 netball team. She has consistently assisted Miss Quaife during every match the team has played. The Year 7 girls are truly appreciative of her unwavering commitment to school netball.



Chloe Healy, a Year 10 student, was nominated by both staff and her friends. Chloe exemplifies the core values of our school. She consistently demonstrates kindness towards others and willingly offers her assistance to staff.



Oliver Neathercoat, a Year 10 student, earned his award for his unwavering commitment to the PE department over the past four years. Additionally, he has provided valuable support and assistance to the Year 7 football team.



Freya Claydon Year 8

Hattie and Freya, both Year 8 students, generously volunteer in our library, often assisting even on days when they are not scheduled to be on duty. Additionally, they have showcased their talents by participating in numerous assemblies as members of the Rights Action Group. Moreover, they have dedicated many lunchtimes to rehearsing and actively engaging in various charity activities.

Hattie Sans Year 8



Congratulations to all the students! Each of you will receive £300 to spend within the school and will be invited to an awards evening at the Towngate Theatre in September. If you would like to nominate a student, please email me at [educate@mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk](mailto:educate@mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk). Thank you very much.

Mrs Cooke

## Dyslexia Alumni-Archie Mackay-Careers week

The Dyslexia Centre had the pleasure of hosting a visit from an ex-student, Archie Mackay, on Wednesday 6th March. Archie was a student in the Dyslexia Centre at Mayflower High School from 2017 to 2022. Archie's lifelong ambition has been to become an Outdoors Instructor. Following his remarkable GCSE results, he successfully gained admission to college and has now secured an apprenticeship at Thriftwood Outdoors Activity Centre. Archie met with Dyslexia students from years 8, 9, and 10 to share his journey towards achieving his dream career. He also candidly discussed the challenges he faced due to dyslexia during his school years and offered invaluable advice on navigating the school curriculum with dyslexia. Archie spoke for 50 minutes, during which students had the opportunity to ask a variety of questions. The staff at the Dyslexia Centre are incredibly proud of Archie's accomplishments. Thank you, Archie!



## A Level Law Grade Booster (Year 13)

On Monday, 18th March, Year 13 A-Level Law students attended a grade booster workshop. Throughout the day, students engaged in sessions exploring various areas of law covered in their course. They had ample opportunities to refine exam techniques, retrieve knowledge, and apply exam skills. The workshop proved to be engaging, with students actively participating in all activities, showcasing their understanding and gaining valuable experience in tackling challenging exam questions.

Feedback from students indicated that the workshop was exceptionally beneficial and engaging, instilling confidence as they prepare for the upcoming exam season. Students described the workshop as "extremely beneficial, helpful, and eye-opening."



## Paired Reading

All the students participating in Paired Reading have been diligently working, actively engaging in activities such as Book Title Bingo just before the Half Term and Treasure Hunts just before the Easter holidays.

During Book Title Bingo, they enthusiastically read out quotes and identified the corresponding books, marking them off on their cards. The winners of Bingo received exciting prizes as a reward for their efforts.



During the Treasure Hunts, students engaged in reading questions to decipher specific areas of the Library or identify authors. They then embarked on a search to find letters hidden throughout. Once they unscrambled the letters to form a word, they were eligible to enter a competition to win an Easter Egg.

Congratulations to everyone who participated, and thank you for your dedication and hard work throughout this term.



Once again, we would like to extend a massive thank you to the PTFA for their generous support in funding the coach for the Paired Reading Trip scheduled for July. This contribution greatly benefits all the students participating in Paired Reading and serves as a well-deserved reward for their dedication and hard work. Congratulations to everyone involved. Mrs. Moon and the Paired Reading Team

# KS3 - British Science Week 2024



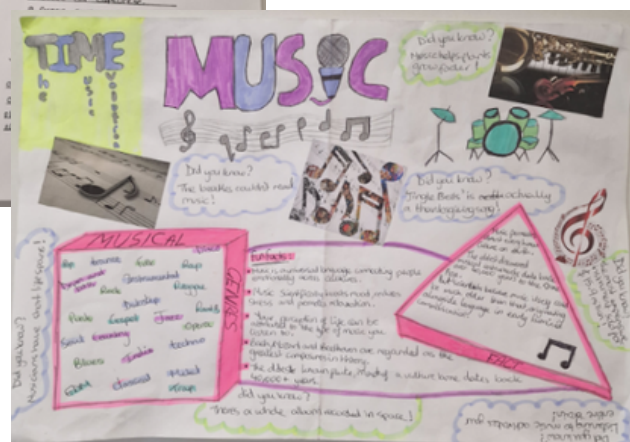
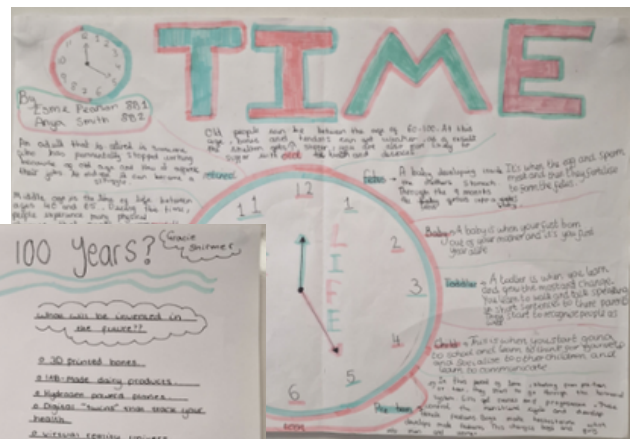
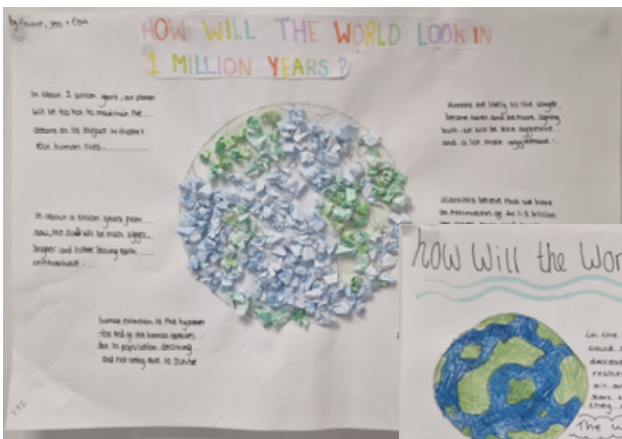
With the conclusion of British Science Week 2024, we take a moment to reflect on a week brimming with engaging activities and boundless enthusiasm for all things science! Students wholeheartedly immersed themselves in hands-on activities and experiments, delving deep into the captivating realm of TIME. The palpable excitement was evident as young minds eagerly explored and absorbed new knowledge. Here are some of the highlights from the week commencing on the 18th of March:



Ellie Graves winning best made paper airplane in class



Marble Sprint - designed by Michael Owusu & Lucan Young



Posters selected to represent Mayflower High School at the British Science Week 2024 Poster Competition

As we bid farewell to British Science Week 2024, let us carry forward the spirit of curiosity, discovery, and collaboration. May we continue to nurture a love for science within our communities and inspire future generations to explore the wonders of the universe. Mr. Wilson

## Design and Technology

It has been an incredibly busy term in the DT department! Our Key Stage 3 students have transitioned to their next project, while our Year 11s have successfully completed their final projects.

In Year 7, students have completed their mechanical automata project. This endeavour has required them to utilize a range of hand tools such as glass paper, tenon saws, files, and some machinery to craft traditional wooden toys. Not only has this project equipped them with the essential skills needed for their DT education journey, but it has also provided them with valuable knowledge about product functionality. Here are some remarkable examples of students' work. Can you spot yours?



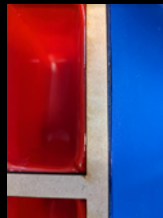
Students in Year 7 have now progressed to learning about basic electronics and the art of soldering their own circuits using a soldering iron.



In Year 9, students have successfully completed the grabber project, which honed their woodworking skills, emphasised the significance of precision, and instructed them on achieving a high-quality finish. Students have expressed great satisfaction with the outcomes of their grabbers, with many being featured in the latest newsletter.

Now, students have transitioned to the card lamp project, which introduces them to design strategies, showcases how designers operate, and fosters problem-solving abilities while learning card modeling skills. This project offers a glimpse into the KS4 curriculum, providing an opportunity for students to unleash their creativity through card modeling and paper techniques.

In Year 11, as previously mentioned, students have completed the construction of their products for their NEA (Non-Exam Assessment), and now they have the Easter break to finalise the accompanying paperwork before the final deadline. These students have demonstrated remarkable dedication in crafting products aimed at addressing climate change. Their projects encompass a diverse range of items, including bird houses, bug hotels, hedgehog houses, squirrel homes, planters, recycling stations, and more. Here is a sneak peek of some of the impressive work they have produced. A heartfelt congratulations to Year 11 for their outstanding efforts!



## Mayflower High School Parents, Teachers and Friends Association



### Funding Given

This academic year, the PTFA have already funded projects totaling over £5k – including the purchase of science equipment, a Sparx Maths subscription, electronic drum kits, a 3D printer – and insurance for Rocco; the school's new therapy dog. We are currently raising money to put towards the investment of new Chromebooks and the refurbishment of the library.

### PreLoved Uniform

Next Sale: Thursday 20th June 5pm-7.30pm

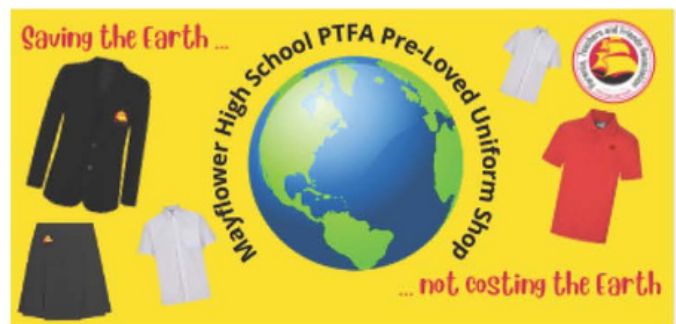
We welcome donations of uniform in good, clean condition, particularly blazers, skirts, ties, PE kits, football boots & revision guides. Please drop off to:

13 Raven Close

23 Norsey View Drive

67 Upland Road

Please only contact the PTFA for urgent uniform requests outside of our termly sales, thank you.



### Adventure Island Tickets

A limited amount of discounted day passes remain available for just £18. Valid until Dec 2024. Please buy in advance to allow time for ticket pick up. Buy online via:

[www.pta-events.co.uk/mayflower-high-school](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/mayflower-high-school)

or e-mail [mfsptfa@gmail.com](mailto:mfsptfa@gmail.com)



### LUCKY LOTTO

An easy way to support your PTFA and be in with a chance of winning £100 each month for a year. Buy your annual ticket for just £12:

[www.pta-events.co.uk/mayflower-high-school](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/mayflower-high-school)



### SPRING ARTISAN MARKET

Thank you to everyone who supported our Spring Artisan Market last week. We raised over **£2,400**, which will go towards investing in new Chromebooks – and the refurbishment of the school library!

### Raffle Winners!

Congratulations to the 33 winners of fantastic prizes, including Arlene Salvatore who won a £250 event set-up, and Mr Venables who won £100 cash!

**Next PTFA Meeting: Monday 29th April 6:30pm. EVERYONE welcome!**



# Comic Relief 2024

On Friday, March 22nd, the staff and students at Mayflower came together to raise funds for Comic Relief through various activities, including a non-uniform day, bake sale, and a dodgeball match. The Student Council Representatives from Year 7 took charge of organising and running a highly successful bake sale during break time. Their efforts resulted in an impressive total of £236.28 raised.



The Year 10 Student Council representatives took the initiative to organise an exhilarating students vs. staff Dodgeball match. Eager for victory after last year's defeat, they were determined to emerge triumphant. With the Year 10 students significantly outnumbering the staff team, anticipation was high. In a thrilling showdown, the Year 10 students emerged victorious with a hard-fought 2-1 win. However, the staff's comeback in the final game, led by Mr. Griffiths, was nothing short of epic, showcasing resilience and teamwork throughout the match.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and took part our final figures were:

Dodgeball £70.02 Cake Sale £236.28 Donations £1,658

Total £1,964.30 - Mrs N Ball

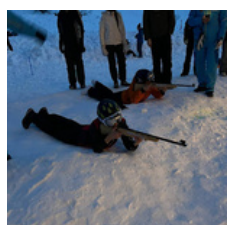
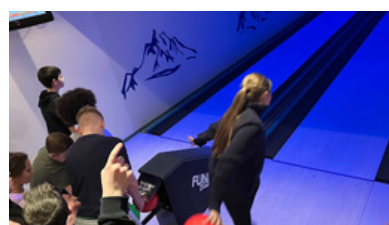
## Ski Trip

This year, the school embarked on a memorable trip to Obertauern in Austria. Despite the lengthy coach journey, we were greeted with a picturesque resort blanketed in snow. The first day greeted us with glorious sunshine and breathtaking views. Beginners eagerly began their skiing lessons, mastering the art of skiing and learning how to navigate the snowy terrain.

Each morning, skiers would gather at a typical Austrian restaurant for a delicious hot meal and a refreshing pint of SkiWasser. As the week progressed, so did the skills of all the skiers, with many venturing beyond the nursery slopes and exploring the mountain.

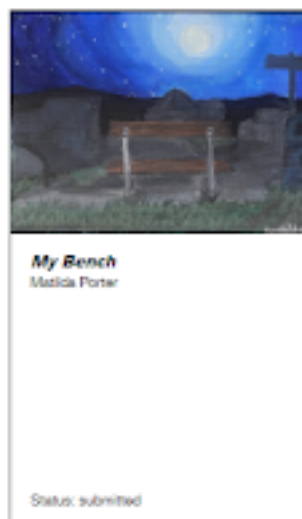
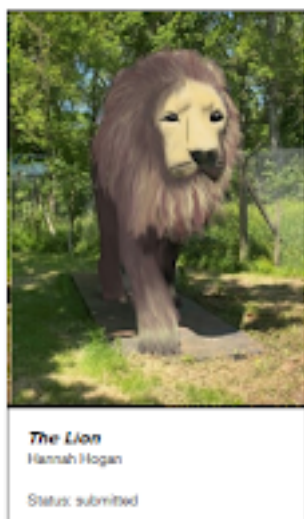
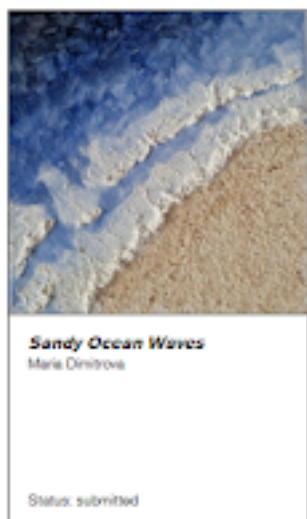
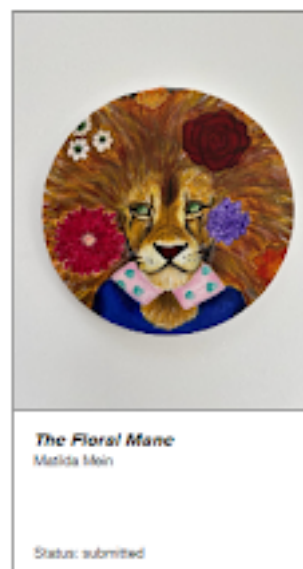
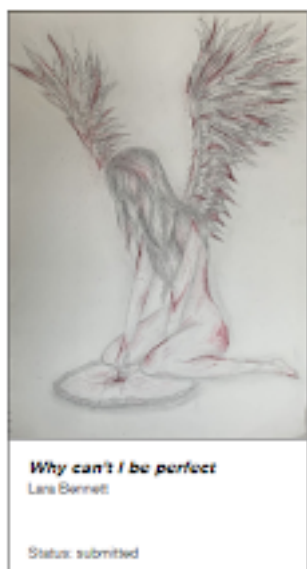
Evening activities included a lively bowling competition, which, despite our best efforts, the teachers graciously allowed the Year 8s to win. On the final evening, local ski instructors organized winter games, including human bowling, snowshoe races, and biathlon laser rifle shooting.

We were fortunate to have excellent skiing weather throughout the week, despite challenging conditions in other parts of Europe. We commend all the students for embodying the school's core values throughout the trip.



Well done to all the art students who participated in the RA Young Artist of the Year Competition 2024. Below, you can view a selection of the artwork submitted for consideration.

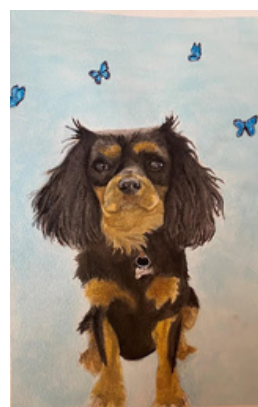
**Mayflower High School's submissions**



Looking closely at the work of Maria Dimitrova from 7B2 and Megan Mecham from 10R1, it's evident just how much skill, creativity, and resourcefulness our students have demonstrated.



**Maria Dimitrova 7B2**  
Name of Artwork: Sandy Ocean Waves  
Medium: Painted on A Canvas with Texture (Sand Is Made from Crushed Cookies and The Waves Are Made with Paint Mixed with Bicarbonate of Soda)  
Sea Painted with Acrylic Paint



**Megan Mecham 10R1**  
Title: Rolo  
Medium: watercolour, acrylic paint and pencils

Judging for the competition will take place in May, and we will notify you if your artwork has been chosen for exhibition after the May Half Term. Good luck to everybody involved!

George Daines 9L2, Maria Dimitrova 7B2, Aurora Hill 8L2, Georgie Hones 7F2, Henry Joyce 8B1, Megan Lee 10B1, Lara Bennett 10B2, Megan Mecham 10R1, Matilda Mein 9R1, Tilly Porter 9B2, Saniya Sanoo 10R1, Olivia Savage 7R1, Sophie Trainer, Finley Walker 8B2, William Baggott 8R1, Hannah Hogan 7R1  
Mr. Clarke

## Rocco

Rocco made his inaugural visit to school last week. We're gradually acclimating him to the school environment, and he handled meeting so many new people admirably. He even managed to teach Mr. Lee a few new tricks! Rocco commenced his day by attending a Senior Team Leadership Meeting, then proceeded to greet students and a few parents at the front gate. Afterwards, he stationed himself in the front office, quickly becoming a beloved companion of our wonderful office staff and school visitors. Rocco will gradually increase his time at school and his interactions with the students.



## World Book Day Report 2024.

Thursday, 7th March, marked World Book Day, and as a school, we celebrated the occasion with a range of activities aimed at promoting a love for reading. Leading up to the day, an "I am currently reading..." template was distributed to staff members, encouraging them to fill it out and display it prominently in their working areas. I'm delighted to report that numerous templates were displayed throughout the school, sparking conversations between staff and students about their reading choices.



On World Book Day itself, teachers with KS3 classes were encouraged to dedicate some time to a World Book Day activity, which could range from simple sharing of their current reads to more elaborate activities. Some of the activities carried out included:

- Book reviews.
- Dramatization of a poem by Mrs. Holland and her class.
- Creation of bookmarks (pictures included).
- Listening to a recording of "Last Breath" by Joe Hill, read by various teachers in the school. This was divided logically and chronologically into five sections for Registration, Periods 1 through 4. Each section, lasting no more than five minutes, was played at the start of the corresponding lesson, with the audio played first and then the reveal of the reader. The students were then asked to guess who the reader was.

The readers included Mr. Lee, our Headteacher, Mrs. Holland, Mr. Ellis, Mrs. Trevellyan, and Mr. Reed.



The general feedback was positive, with Mr. Church and his classes enjoying the activities, as well as Mr. McSweeney's class being particularly intrigued by the reading of "Last Breath."

We are constantly reviewing our activities and engagement strategies, and it is my hope that next year's World Book Day will be even bigger and better than this year's. See you soon.

Thank you.

Mr M. Ncube.

# Key Stage Three and Four Achievement

On the final Wednesday and Thursday of this term, we will hold our Celebration Assemblies, which I will share with you in the next edition of the newsletter. During these assemblies, we will be focusing on our core values by celebrating the efforts demonstrated by our students inside the classroom. Subjects will be giving out certificates recognising great learners this term.

Attendance is crucial to our students' success and is always emphasised in assemblies. We will be celebrating and recognising both 100% attendance since September and also this term, which will feature prominently in the assemblies. These students will be entered into Amazon voucher draws and will also receive certificates for their attendance.

While students receive their merit certificates during the term, badges will be issued during the assembly. This term, we have students who have achieved their platinum and diamond awards, which is an amazing recognition of their hard work and excellent attitude towards their learning, embodying the values of our school.

Other awards in the assemblies will include tutor postcards, Year Manager/Head of Year Award, and the Student Choice Award, where students have been nominating their peers.

Please note that due to our assemblies, merits were calculated on the 15th March.

## Diamond Awards

### Year 10

Violet Harmer  
Anya Mistry  
Gene Sullivan  
Charlotte Dowson  
Isabelle Lee



### Year 9

Annie Jerreat  
Anna Cowen  
Achyut Naredla  
Sophie Thomas

### Year 8

Destiny Topping

## Platinum Awards

### Year 7

Jasmine Ball  
Ethan Boyce  
Florence Brooks  
Amelia Cimini  
Jessica Green  
Alfie Healy  
Mateo Lechea

Abigail Small  
Florence Wiseman



### Year 8

Betsi Plenty  
Denisa Podaru  
Elena Humphreys  
Evie Andrews  
Freddie Wallace  
Hattie Sains  
Hollie Simpson  
Hudson Daly  
Leah McFeely  
Luke Wheaton  
Oliver George  
Olivia Joshi



### Year 9

Megan Posthuma  
Charlotte Bilby  
Rose Threadgold  
Jessica Abraham  
Daisy Mears  
Myleen Karikari  
Sam Wearn  
Athina Mitchell  
Gracie Cimini

### Year 10

Ruby Toll  
Saniya Sanoo  
Nakshathra Tharakan  
Aidan Sterry  
Freya Daley  
Sophie Hill  
Chloe Healy  
Ella Davies  
Shay Coughlan  
Elizabeth Salvatore  
Amy Baker  
Ben Mesnard  
Dakota Styles  
Rose Wallis

Due to our Year 11 students having their PPEs before Christmas and this term our highest merit achievers are:

## Gold Awards

### Year 11

Samuel Anderson  
Beatrice Bleakley  
Chloe Callis  
Amy Carter  
Shelby Coventry  
Emily Joshi  
Erin Lambe  
Ben Simpson  
Thomas Williams

Mrs Cooke and Mrs Ball



## U16 Girls Basketball Team. CHAMPIONS.

In a rematch of last year's final, which they lost by 25 points, the girls faced off against Fitzwimarc. The first quarter started evenly, with both teams trading baskets, until Fitzwimarc gained momentum and took a 17-10 lead by the end of the quarter. This lead extd to 13 points in the 2nd quarter, with Mayflower trailing 25-12. However, a surge of 8 unanswered points and a change of pace saw Mayflower narrow the gap to just 5 points by halftime.

The 3rd quarter proved decisive, with Mayflower showcasing intense defense and composure on offense, allowing them to take the lead for the first time in the game and finish the quarter ahead 35-34. The final quarter was tense, with the lead changing hands multiple times. With 18 seconds left to play, Mayflower held a slim 3-point lead and needed to remain composed and protect the basketball. Despite a last-second basket from Fitzwimarc, the girls had done enough to secure a 48-47 victory!

"These girls have given their all to the Mayflower PE department over the past 5 years. They are incredible ambassadors for girls' sports. In their third final in three years, they finally clinched the win, and they couldn't have deserved it more! I am so proud!" - Miss Smith



## Year 8 Football Team

The Year 8 football team's season concluded with a loss in the league semi-final against Beauchamps. Despite finishing the league in 3rd position with a strong win against Bromfords, we were drawn against Beauchamps for the semi-finals. The boys put in a tremendous effort during the semi-final, and at 1-1, Mayflower appeared to be the most likely to secure the winning goal. Unfortunately, it was not to be, but there is plenty to be encouraged about after a much-improved season.

Player of the season- Dylan Foley



Mr Sullivan



## Year 7 Netball Team

The Year 7 Netball team, after narrowly missing out on progressing to the next stage of the Essex Cup, had a new focus this term: their district league games. They commenced a busy few weeks with a victory against Beauchamps. Subsequently, they played against Bromfords and DLS, securing another two well-earned wins. With one more game to play this term, I am hopeful they will reach the final!

It has been delightful to witness so many girls persisting in attending training sessions and representing the school. Well done, girls, and keep up the hard work.

Miss Quaife

## U13 Girls Football

The U13 Girls' football team successfully advanced to the fifth round of the English School Cup by winning 4 - 1 at home against Simon Balle. Congratulations to Bella Ehrlich, Zoe Manly, Anya Smith, Amy Tear, Olivia Johnson-Marns, Amelia Stephens, Eva Branch, Lilly Peart, Polina Carter, Isabelle Sargant, Florence Brooks, and Maisie Anderson.

We eagerly anticipate our upcoming match against Redden Court at home on the 19th of April.



## Year 7 Football Team

After topping the group stages of the football league, the Year 7 football team continued their impressive unbeaten season by defeating Billericay School in the semi-final. Mayflower started the semi-final strongly and pressed forward early. They were rewarded with a goal-of-the-season contr from Rafa after a corner was cleared to the edge of the box, and he thundered it home into the top corner. That set the tone for the match, and Mayflower put on a dominant performance, with the whole squad delivering a season-best display. We were rarely troubled at the back due to the defence stifling any danger, but on the odd occasion when we were, Archie was there in goal with a safe pair of hands. Mayflower were 3-0 up at half-time and pushed ahead in the second half to finish comfortable 5-0 victors. We march on to the league final against Woodlands on Tuesday 16th April, with a 3pm kick-off at Billericay Town FC. Good luck.



Mr Close



## Year 7 Football 'B' Team

The Year 7 'B' team played against Bromfords 'B', and there were some brilliant performances from the boys. We won 10-0, which allowed us to play people in different positions. There were numerous goal scorers, including our goalkeeper who played up front during the second half. Overall, it was played in great spirit, with everyone enjoying themselves and showcasing some quality football.

Mr Close

## Year 9 Football Team

Congratulations to the Year 9 Football team, who have reached the league cup final following an impressive performance against Beauchamps in the semi-final. After losing to Beauchamps earlier in the season, the pressure was on as the boys faced a tricky first half where they struggled to find a route forward and had the Mayflower crossbar rattled twice. One of the attempts only stayed out due to the smallest of fingertip saves by Lewis Watts. However, a brilliant solo counter-attacking goal at the start of the second half from Lucas Foreman opened the floodgates, and the boys punished some sloppy defending by putting another four past the Beauchamps goalkeeper. It was an absolute masterclass of finishing from Lucas and hat-trick hero Harrison Dempsie.

The boys' focus now switches to the final, which will be against Woodlands at New Lodge (Billericay FC's first-team pitch) on Tuesday, 16th April, with a 3pm kickoff.

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## English Schools Cross Country Championships

Callum Lill in Year 12 has qualified to represent Essex at The English Schools Cross Country Championships in Pontefract for the 2nd year in a row.

### Year 7 and 8 Essex Schools Cross Country Championships

This significant event is held each year with races containing 300+ runners and provides a great experience for the lower school runners. This year, the school had its best performances ever, with the Year 7 girls' team coming in 6th place overall. Individually, Sophie Bickerstaff came in 3rd place, winning a Bronze medal and securing a place in the Essex squad. The top 20 runners in each race were selected for the county team, and Dominic Grant, Freddie Wallace, and Harry Daley also joined Sophie in the Essex squad.



## Swimming - English Schools Inter-divisional Championships

Evangeline Pierce and Daniel McGuinness both qualified (again) to represent the East of England at the English Schools National Inter-Divisional Championships. They were selected as captains and helped the East team to 3rd place in the country! Additionally, they were voted the most improved region.

Evangeline achieved individual silver and bronze medals in the 200m and 100m Backstroke, and 2 golds in the relays. Daniel won bronze in the 400m Individual Medley.



## Basildon Schools District Swimming Gala

With the return of the Local Swimming Gala came much excitement. Mayflower had held the champions trophy since 2014 and were in no mood to let it go! All of the Mayflower swimmers put on a great display, with almost every race containing a medal winner from Mayflower. The final results saw Mayflower win the Girls' and Boys' trophy, the Year 7 trophy, and, more importantly, the overall champions trophy.

Special note must go to Alexa Ramirez from Year 7 and Conor Mint from Year 9, who won 3 gold medals each in their 50m individual race, the Individual Medley, and the Mixed Relay.



This term, Mayflower High School had the privilege of hosting four School Sports Partnership events for our local primary schools. On the 5th of March, we saw Buttsbury, Quilters, and Stock compete in our KS1 cross country event. The talent displayed by our local primary schools was exciting to see.

A big thank you to Thomas Lehman, Oliver Sargood, Ben Mouldsdale, Samuel Hull, Connor Mint, Aaron Bickerstaff, Harry Alsemgeest, Hayden Fitch, Rocco Savill, and Benedict Guthrie-Blunkell, our sports leaders, for running and helping marshal the event.





On the 12th of March, we welcomed sixty Year 2 pupils from Buttsbury to learn a dance choreographed and taught by Denisa Podaru, Eliana Newman, Freya Spencer, Hannah Copp, Sophie Lee Threadgold, Jessica Abraham, Julie Santos, Juliet Wenborn, Chloe Locke-Sinclair, Charlotte Bilby, and Isabelle Currie. The girls did an amazing job teaching and supporting the children.

This term, we also had the exciting opportunity to work with the Ferinand Group. Our local primary schools were privileged to have three coaches come and support our School Sports Partnership football festivals on the 19th and 26th of March for Year 4 and Year 2. This was also a great opportunity for our sports leaders to receive support and advice on how to referee.

A big thank you to the following Sports Leaders for attending: Chloe Locke-Sinclair, Rose Threadgold, Maddie Richbell, Julie Santos, Aaron Bickerstaff, Teddy Veness, Elsie Shepherd, Rocco Savill, Julianna Bauckham, Conor Mint, Hayden Fitch, Jessica Abraham, Isabella Currie, Juliet Wenborn, Thomas Lehman, Oliver Sargood, Ben Mouldsdale, Samuel Hull, Harry Alsemgeest, and Benedict Guthrie-Blunkell. I look forward to developing our partnership with the Ferinand Group to deliver Elite days to our gifted and talented pupils at Mayflower next term.

### **International Gymanst - Maggie-Mae Shepherd**

Earlier this year, Maggie-Mae Shepherd in Year 11 earned a place in the England Gymnastics team and travelled to Germany to compete in the Leverkusen Cup

