

MAYFLOWER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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It was so lovely to welcome all our students back to school last week. I have been hugely impressed with the start that our young people have made to the new term, many of my colleagues have remarked on their excellent behaviour, effort and impeccable uniform. I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for their support in ensuring such a successful start to the new academic year. I would also like to extend a big welcome to our new Year 7 and 12 students.

Taking assemblies is always a delight and gave me the opportunity to meet with each of our year groups as we reflected on themes such as being focused, making the most of our talents, and the importance of kindness and treating people kindly. As part of the Primary Roadshows, members of the Senior Team and I had the pleasure to visit and meet parents at both Buttsbury Junior School and Brightside Primary.

Whilst we continue to prioritise the safety of our students and staff with regards to our Covid-19 systems of control, it has been great to see some aspects of school life returning to what they were before the pandemic. Our students being able to access their full curriculum is an important aspect of returning to more normal routines. We are really grateful for how resilient our students have been over the past 18 months but are delighted that they can now have a more normal school experience.

It is great to be back as we look forward to new challenges and opportunities ahead.



Ms J Williams
Interim Headteacher

Behaviour for Learning

Ms Williams spoke to all students in their first assembly about the importance of kindness and showing respect for each other in our school and our community. This week in assemblies we continued along the same theme as Ms Williams as we reminded our students of our Key Vision for our school ` **Success and Opportunity for all**`. Developing a culture that is deep rooted in kindness is very important as it creates an environment where students feel safe and we focus on the positive allowing us to help support students in their academic and social growth.

As part of our Behaviour for Learning approach we are focussing on three key values which all members of our school community should strive towards; Be Respectful, Be a Learner, Be Safe . Throughout this term and this year we will be teaching and reminding students the importance of our values both in our school and in our community and what these values look like in practice.

Students are expected at all times to have their yellow student card in their blazer and some parents will have noticed that the student card this year is reflecting our school values. Students can receive positive signatures outside of the classroom for displaying our key values, for example picking up litter, helping another student, being kind. There is also space on the card for students to write their total achievement points which will be monitored by the tutor. Achievement points can be awarded for showing the **Mayflower Values** inside and outside of the classroom. **Participation:** for example in assemblies, clubs and competitions. **Excellence in our community:** for example, taking part in D of E receiving a Jack Petchey award and finally being awarded for their **Work Ethic:** for example excellent effort in their homework, participation in class. We have been really delighted to see so many of our students already receiving achievement points and positive signatures in the first few weeks.

Thank you for your support at the start of this term and we look forward to celebrating your child's successes and recognition of our school's values with you.

Mrs E Cooke and Mrs N Ball

The Jack Petchey Achievement Awards Scheme

The Mayflower High School is proud to be part of the The Jack Petchey Achievement Awards Scheme. The scheme has run very successfully within our school for many years and 9 awards are awarded each academic year.

Students are recognised for all manner of achievements - some are personal achievements and other awards are for contribution to school life or community. Students receive a certificate in school and then are invited to attend an awards evening which is also attended by other local schools.

The Jack Petchey Foundation also gives the student £250 to spend within the school on the area or subject of their choosing. For example previous students have contributed towards new rugby shirts and a tutor group all enjoyed breakfast as a thank you for supporting another student.

Students and staff also have the opportunity to nominate a member of our school community for a Leaders Award which is recognised for outstanding contribution to our school.

If you would like to nominate any student at The Mayflower High School for a Jack Petchey Achievement Award, please send an email to educate@mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk, for the attention of Mrs E Cooke or complete a nomination form (available from the school reception).



Mrs E Cooke

Marathon Success!

On Sunday 12 September, Miss Quaife, who has joined the school to teach Science and Physical Education, took part in the Brighton Marathon. Miss Quaife only started her running journey in March 2020 following the national lockdown, having never been a 'runner', she used the allocated 'once a day' as an opportunity to leave the house, get some fresh air and keep a base level of fitness. Within weeks she had been bitten by the running bug and, in November 2020, she ran her first virtual half marathon. Very sadly in January 2021, Miss Quaife's grandmother passed away which provided the motivation she needed to run this year's Brighton Marathon raising an impressive £2035 for St Barnabas House. Brighton Marathon was Miss Quaife's first ever experience of running in a race with a crowd and she finished the 26.2 miles in a fantastic time of 5 hours and 5 minutes! Well done, Miss Quaife!

Miss S Smith



World Champion!

Congratulations to Beau Sullivan, one of our Year 11 students, who competed in the Sodi World Finals in Italy, over the summer. Beau won and is now World Champion. A fantastic achievement, Beau! We are so proud of you!

Mr N Feltimo



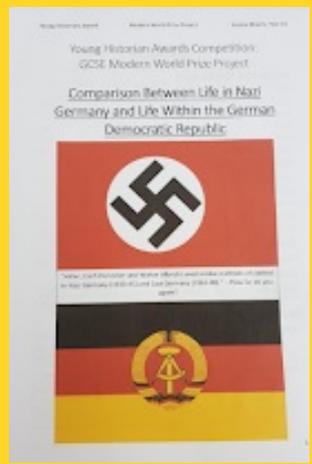
Young Historian Prize Winner

Over the course of the summer, Jessica Moore, from Year 11, entered the Historical Association's Young Historian Award competition. We are so proud to share that Jessica won the award for the best Modern World essay, which looked at a comparison of life between Nazi Germany and the German Democratic Republic.

This was a fantastic opportunity for Jessica to explore her interest in History, but also to expand her historical understanding beyond what they were taught in school. The national competition needed Jessica to not only investigate a period within the Modern World, but also to analyse historians' views and sources, which Jessica then presented in an essay.

We are thrilled for Jessica and so proud of what she has done. Congratulations!

Miss H Cooke



Politics Essay Competition

Politics is an A Level subject that allows students the opportunity to learn about the UK and US political systems, looking at the beliefs and systems that underpin the two in order to come to an informed opinion on political matters. This A Level is unique in the fact that current developments can be included within their answers, looking at the links between the content that the students have looked at in class and how this links to emerging political developments.

A number of our Year 13 students are currently completing a 1000-word essay as part of The London School of Economics and Political Science's annual essay competition. The question that they will be evaluating is To what extent have emerging social movements caused politicians to respond with effective social change? This question will allow our students the opportunity to independently evaluate whether social movements, such as Black Lives Matter, climate strikes or student-led gun control movements in the USA, have forced politicians to pass legislation that leads to social change or whether this is something that is still a work in progress.

The Politics teachers wish all Mayflower entrants the best of luck in the competition and we hope that you find the process useful in encouraging further thought around important social issues!

Miss N Gunnell



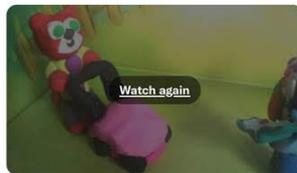
Zootopia

One of our Year 8 students, Elsa Ward, has created a fabulous animation that has been recognised by the co-creator of a very popular Disney film Zootopia. In the first week of the summer holidays, Elsa decided to try and cheer up her younger sister who had tested positive for Covid-19 by having a go at animating a scene from the film, using the stop motion app.

Elsa contacted the co-director, Bryon Howard, who was so impressed that he tweeted back the next morning and kindly wished her little sister better.

Well done, Elsa. We know how proud your family is with what you did. So are we!

Hi @ByronPHoward - we're stuck indoors isolating as my youngest has Covid (seems fine 🤞) and my 12yo (who, 5yrs on is still OBSESSED with Zootopia) made this this afternoon with Plasticine & a stop motion app - her first try. Stay safe!



Mrs Z Pierce

Lit in Colour

Over the summer, Mrs Ball entered a competition on behalf of the school to receive 100 Penguin books by authors of colour, including 30 copies of Sathnam Sanghera's *Empireland*. Penguin books received over 1600 entries and we are pleased to announce that Mayflower was one of the lucky winners!

We are looking forward to receiving these books and resources not only to enhance our library but also to use across the curriculum developing the range of books available for reading as well as supporting our work in equality and diversity.

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/campaigns/lit-in-colour.html>

Mrs N Ball



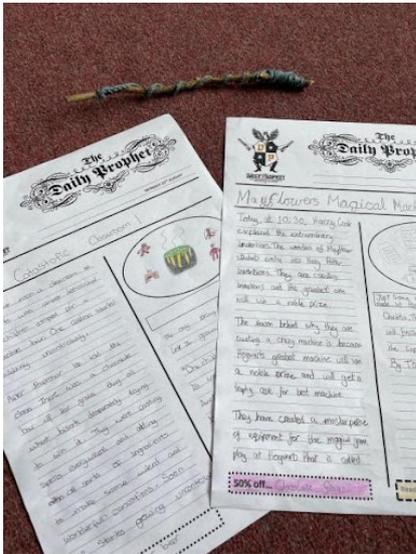
Harry Potter Summer School 2021

After a difficult year for all students during the pandemic, Mayflower High School wanted to provide our new Year 7 intake with an exciting learning opportunity to help bridge the transition from primary into secondary education. We created a week long, Harry Potter themed programme, with a literacy focus for 150 of our new Year 7 cohort.

The young wizards received a blend of academic and enrichment subjects and activities including English, Science, Maths, bush craft, PE, DT, swimming, well-being, first aid with CPR and business enterprise. All these activities were designed with a touch of magic which developed their wizarding skills in a variety of areas including, Quidditch, wand making, Galleon production, potion making and spell poetry.

All staff involved in the Summer School observed students developing academically in all subjects, but also building new friendships and confidence as the week commenced. We hope all our wizards enjoyed this year's summer school and that it has supported their new start at Mayflower High School.

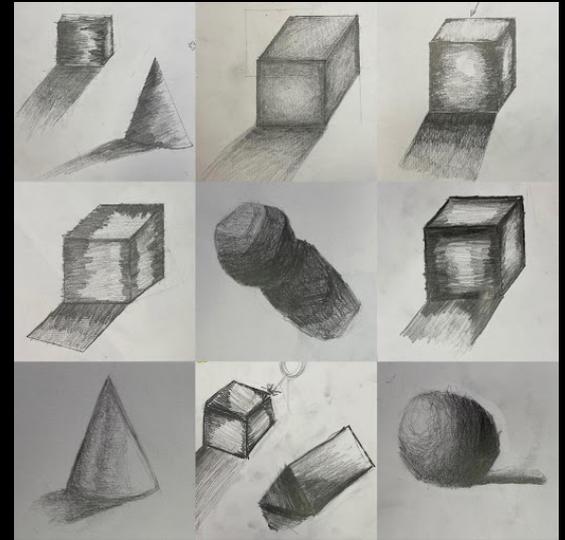
Ms L Jones



Year 7 Art

The Art department would like to say well done to all Year 7 students. All students have made a fantastic start to their Art lessons at Mayflower and shown a great amount of effort put into their work. Students have been practicing their use of tone by creating 3D shapes using 2B pencils.

Miss S Brown



Year 8 News

Phoenix Hill has had a victorious summer by winning his debut race in the Brentwood Junior Karting Championship. Phoenix hopes to continue his success this season and finish in the top 3.

Christopher Reid has been hitting all the right notes this summer by continuing his love of the school music platform Melodics. He has reached over 100 records and achieved a 70-day streak.

The Year 8 Merit Form competition is well underway with huge totals already being achieved.

Leading this academic year is L1, in second B2 and in third M1. This is changing on a daily basis as students are continuing to be rewarded for their school achievements, so keep up the good work.

Mrs Z Pierce

Year 9 News

The Year 9 students have made a superb start to the year with uniforms looking smart and students looking fully engaged in lessons. Our students have been collecting merits and have been telling me on my travels how well they are doing which is really pleasing to see.

Our first go to the front of the dining queue pass was issued this week, which is fabulous having only been in school for just over a week. I am positive that the Year 9 students will make this a successful year.

Miss J Gregory

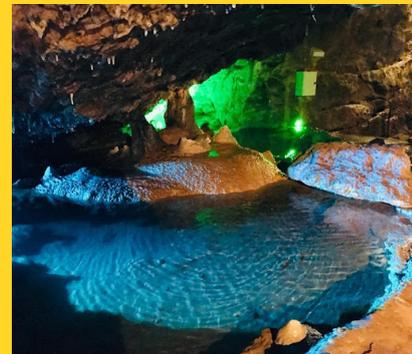
Geographical Association's Physical Geography Photo Competition

One of our Year 8 students, Charlotte Dowson, was inspired by her study of physical geography to take a photograph, whilst on holiday in the summer, and enter it for the Geographical Association's Physical Geography Photo Competition. Here is Charlotte's entry:

This photo was taken in the Wookey Hole caves in Somerset. I went there during my recent holiday. Wookey Hole is a village in Somerset and is the location of the Wookey Hole show caves. There is a lot of physical geography in process here. The cave itself has been formed by the dissolution of limestone by rainwater which soaks through the rock, dissolving the limestone, eventually forming a cave. In my photograph, you can also see where the water has dripped down creating icicle-like structures which are hanging down from the ceilings of the cave; these are called stalactites. My photograph also shows stalagmites. These build up from the floor of the cave and are formed by calcium from the limestone depositing. Water continually drips down from the top of the caves. You can see this in my photo from the pool of water which has built up on the floor of the cave. In addition, marks can be seen on the surface of the water from where the water is continually dripping in from the top of the cave.

Charlotte Dowson, Mayflower High School

Well done to Charlotte for entering the Geographical Association's Physical Geography Photo Competition. Good luck!



Sport is Back!

After a turbulent year for extra-curricular sport at Mayflower High School last year, it has been so pleasing to see an impressive turn out at clubs in the first few weeks of this academic year. Over 100 Year 7 students enjoyed their first experiences of football and netball club, swimming trials were attended by over 50 students and there was an equally notable number of girls present for their first basketball session. The dedication and commitment of Year 8 and 9 students should also be commended with netball, football and basketball clubs being well attended.

Mayflower High School have dominated district swimming, cross-country and netball competition for a number of years and had recent success in national swimming and county basketball competitions and with school fixtures starting again very soon, the PE department cannot wait to see more students attending all sport training sessions. The PE extra-curricular timetable can be found on the school website, on social media and copies will be on tutor groups noticeboards, to help students keep organised.

Miss S Smith

MAYFLOWER HIGH SCHOOL PE DEPARTMENT CLUB TIMETABLE SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER HALF TERM 2021

	BEFORE SCHOOL 8:00-8:30am	UPPER SCHOOL LUNCH	LOWER SCHOOL LUNCH	AFTER SCHOOL 3:15-4:30pm
MONDAY				Year 7 & 8 Boys Football - GMY, RHY Year 8 & 9 Girls Netball - KLR, SSH
TUESDAY	Cross Country club (all years) MST, SSH			Year 9,10 & 11 Boys Football - GMY, RHY, MST Year 9-10 Rugby - MBN Year 10-11 Netball - KLR, LJS
WEDNESDAY	Badminton year 7-8 MBN	Week A Year 10/11 Boys Basketball		Year 7-8 Boys Rugby - MBN, MST Year 7 Girls Netball club - CQE Year 9-10 Girls Basketball - SSH
THURSDAY	Indoor Athletics Year 7-9 MST		Week B year 9 Boys Basketball	Swimming Trials/training for National SQUAD only- MST Trial dates Y7 boys & Girls = 9/9/21, y7 boys and y8 & 9 Boys and girls 16/9/21 , Y7 girls and y8 & 9 Boys and girls 23/9/21) All years Girls Football - LJS, CQE (year 7 starts 16/9/21)
FRIDAY				The School Fun Run (2km) (all years) MST, PBY, GMY Year 7 & 8 Girls Basketball SSH, RMY STAFF SPORT – PBR

MST = Mr Sergeant
SSH = Miss Smith

GMY= Mr McSweeney
KLR = Miss Lester

RHY= Mr Harvey
LJS = Miss Jones

MBN = Mr Bunyan
RMY = Mrs McSweeney

PBY = Mr Bailey
CQE= Miss Quaife

PBR = Mr Banger