

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's been an action-packed week with Open Evenings, Remembrance Services, a multitude of successful sports matches and the usual large array of extracurricular activities.

Thank you to all of the Upper 5 families who came along to the Sixth Form Open Evening on Monday. It was certainly a full house and thank you for the feedback which has been incredibly positive and uplifting. I'm so glad that you found the event both informative and helpful regarding A-levels choices and the structure of our quite unique and wonderful Sixth Form. The next step now is for the Upper 5 to attend a range of subject seminars which will take place on the Sixth Form Taster Day on Tuesday 23 November.

We had a really lovely whole school Remembrance Service yesterday out on our double hardcourts. It was so wonderful to have the entire school community together from Reception to Upper 6, teachers and support staff. As is the tradition, Dora played the Last Post accompanied by Mr Nuttall and the duet really

made the event feel very special. I was also touched to see the beautiful hand-crafted poppies that the Pre-Prep brought with them, proudly showing me as they stood quietly and respectfully on the front row, taking it all in. This was followed in the Senior School by a very moving assembly by Mr Loosemore this morning, focusing on individual stories.

I am just sending you all a letter today to let you know of two non-uniform 'mufti' events coming up in the next fortnight. Friday 19 November is, of course, children in need day and we always raise a great deal of money for this wonderful cause. Pupils will be allowed to come in in their casual clothes for a donation of £2 to be brought in in cash. The Senior School Charity Committee are busy concocting some other events for the day to give it its usual fun feel. Following this, on Friday 26 November, we have the mufti-day-with-a-twist when girls are encouraged to bring in an item for the Maynard Parents' Association Christmas Fayre. I'm delighted that we are able to put this back on as it is always so well attended and an annual highlight. Later on in this newsletter, the



MPA have provided further details about the sort of things that are useful as donations and where they can be delivered to and by when.

Typical of The Maynard, when we announced that Ten Tors training was back on we ended up with over 60 pupils signing up! I have been told that, in 2019, we had more girls over the finish line at the event than any other school in the country! All of the students went out last weekend and had a very successful trial walk and I gather they all did very well indeed. From this walk, Mr Tabb selected a final squad of 32 who will now go through six months of arduous training. I want to congratulate all of the girls for getting involved and doing so well on the selection weekend. I would also like to thank our wonderful team of parent volunteers.



Without this generosity of time and expertise we simply wouldn't be able to put out so many teams on the moors and, I hope, over the finish line in May.

And finally, excitement is building for next week's production of Mary Poppins and tickets are flying out of the door. Friday has completely sold out and limited numbers are still available for Wednesday and Thursday evening, so please be quick to secure yours to avoid disappointment (office@maynard.co.uk or drop into Reception)! We will also be opening a bar in the Main School Hall from 6.15pm, manned by myself and other members of staff, so do call in and see us before the shows start at 7pm!

On to the week's news ...



Jess scoops 100% scholarship to US University

Huge celebrations are in order for Jess (Upper 6) who has finally been allowed to make public her 100% sports scholarship to Weber State University in Utah, USA. We are absolutely thrilled for her and so excited! This has been a long time in the making for our tennis superstar who has been eyeing up a US university since a very young age.

"I started the process around two years ago and competed loads to achieve the tennis results that I needed. I also connected with the different coaches at the universities, having multiple FaceTimes which resulted in being offered a place by some. I ended up choosing Weber because I really liked the coaches and the university itself has incredible facilities and looks just amazing. I will be training two hours a day on top of my fitness routines and then competing at the weekends in either local tournaments or flying to places such as Las Vegas and Colorado Springs! I feel so proud and happy to be finally fulfilling my dreams with tennis so far. It's been a very long process and I'm so glad it all paid off."



Evie's incredible fundraising efforts

Huge congratulations to Evie in Year 3H who organised a table-top sale at home during half term to fundraise for SNUG (Supporting Neonatal Users & Graduates in the South West). Through selling her outgrown and unwanted toys, Evie managed to raise £97 for the charity which lies so close to her heart as it "helped me when I was little". A very well done to her!





Reception

Reception have been learning about colour and light. They investigated how light shines through different materials and really enjoyed looking at fireworks – a very topical subject at this time of year!



Year 1

The Year 1 girls were really excited to finally meet up with their Year 6 buddies this week when the girls kindly came over to our class to read our favourite stories to us. We also had time to show them all our lovely toys in the classroom.



Year 2

What a treat for Year 2 this week! The girls were thrilled to be invited to Miss Dunn's office for a drink and some cake. We asked Miss Dunn lots and lots (and lots!) of questions to learn more about her and the school. We even discovered that The Maynard School features in the Exeter version of Monopoly. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and look forward to her coming to visit us in our classroom soon.



Year 3

The Year 3's have been making climate change posters in Geography. We have been looking at climate change, and ways that we can help by reducing our carbon footprint. We have been keeping up with the news by watching Newsround, and we have discussed the issues around climate change. The girls have come up with some super ways to help tackle global warming such as eating less meat and planting more trees.

We have also been weaving in art, and the girls have created some beautiful patterns with their wool.



Year 4

Year 4 have been learning about Remembrance Day and have been putting their skills to good use by making these beautiful poppy wreaths. Lots of patience was required, along with some very accurate cutting and paper folding. The girls worked with great care, and we are enjoying seeing them hanging across our classroom before they go home for the weekend.



Year 5

Year 5K/S showed their poetic skills when composing an alternative, happy ending to the tragic poem 'The Highwayman' which they have been studying. They composed their new stanzas following the style of the original poem, and ensured that Bess and the Highwayman lived happily ever after. They will now be returning to modern times and taking on the role of police detectives investigating mysterious events in the book 'Tuesday' by David Wiesner.



Meanwhile, 5G have had a fantastic week of learning. In Maths, we have thought about mass – do you know the difference between mass and weight!? We thought about metric units of mass and solved word problems based on the mass of various fruits and vegetables. In Literacy, we are reading a wonderful book called 'Tuesday' by David Wiesner which is about flying frogs! We pretended to be private investigators and interviewed potential witnesses to this strange event. We then wrote factual reports using reported speech in order to help police solve this mysterious case. We talked a lot about Remembrance Day and were pleased to be able to join the whole of the school for the 2-minute silence. In Art, we used watercolours to depict Flanders Fields – we hope you enjoy our creations.



Maths Olympiad

What excellent results from the Mathematical Olympiad for Girls 2021! Megan, Hannah and Gloria were each awarded a certificate of distinction for results that were in the top 25% of the 2,300 entries. Equally, Helena was awarded a certificate of merit for good engagement with the paper. Huge congratulations to them all on this bumper crop of results!



Accelerated Reader update

Congratulations to our latest Accelerated Reader word millionaires. Florence, Annie H, Annie L, Bella, Alice and Abi in Year 5 have passed this impressive milestone since our last update, along with Melanie in Upper 3. Many girls have reached, or are approaching, their individual points targets for the term. Well done, everyone!



Junior School Musical Showcase

On Wednesday, the Junior School was delighted to hold its first musical showcase of the academic year for girls in Years 5 and 6. Following a shout out on ClassicFM that morning, the radio station had texted to wish the 23 solo performers good luck, and it was with a great sense of excitement and joy that parents were welcomed into school to watch the first showcase for two years. The audience was treated to performances on the piano, violin, cello, flute, guitar, trumpet and singing and, for some of the girls, this was their first public performance. The new Ukuladies group (for girls in Years 5 and 6) also played and all the girls in Years 3 - 6 performed a couple of songs to book-end the afternoon. We are so proud of all the performers who overcame their nerves and provided a varied musical entertainment for their friends, teachers and parents. Well done, everyone!

Mrs Smith



MUSIC NEWS



Congratulations to Zoe

Huge congratulations to Zoe in Lower 4 who has successfully auditioned for a place in the Under 13 National Children's Orchestra. This is such a fantastic achievement and testament to her high level of effort, interest and ability. Very well done!

Football

Our Year 5 and 6 sports club girls had a fun evening on Thursday, playing in three teams in our first friendly Football festival with St. Leonard's Primary School.

With the focus on fun and having a go without fear, the girls did fabulously - there were moments of brilliance with clearances from the goal line, shots from the half way line and plenty of oooohs and cheers from the spectators.

It was another night under our amazing new floodlights which have made such a difference to all the various after-school training sessions and clubs. Our sincere thanks to the MPA for donating them - words cannot describe what a difference they have made!



Hockey

It's been another busy and successful week again, with the U13 A&B teams both posting excellent victories against Exeter School on Friday and then repeating their winning formula against Uffculme last night, with the As finishing on a mammoth 12-0 and the Bs on 5-0.



Likewise, the Under 10s enjoyed a lovely Monday afternoon up at the university, playing friendly matches against Exeter Cathedral School - a lovely occasion with some closely fought games and the perfect opportunity to give the entire year group a competitive experience.



Gym Club

We are so fortunate to have the Exeter Gymnastics Club just down the road and our Senior gymnasts in Lower 4 and Upper 4 have been getting truly stuck in to some super energetic sessions this term. After Christmas, we will be opening the Gymnastics Club up to girls in Upper 3 - please ask your daughters to keep an eye on the Sports Notice Board for details about how to register interest and sign up!



Equestrian

The winter equestrian season is now underway and last weekend saw the first NSEA Eventers Challenge taking place at Pontispool, Taunton. Although arena-based, this event differs slightly to the more traditional showjumping in that competitors have to navigate a course of show jumps followed immediately by a course of cross-country obstacles in the same arena.

Unfortunately, due to injuries to both horses and riders, we were not able to enter a team on this occasion. However, Sienna in Lower 5 represented us admirably on her horse, Applemore Sylvia, placing 12th out of a class of over 70 competitors.

Watch this space for future news of our equestrians who are now focusing on showjumping in December.



Dance

The Dance Company has been in full flow, learning their Christmas dance routine during their lunchtime rehearsals. Prepare to be wowed!



Netball

A dominant performance saw the Under 16 Netball team win their 3rd round Cup Match over Churston Ferrers 35-13 on Monday. It turned out to be a great stress reliever after a busy week of mock examinations and they then dashed straight back to hear all about life in the Sixth Form during our Open Evening, and to look at the range of A-levels on offer!





Anna rides the crest of (another) wave!

Congratulations to Anna (Upper 6) who has been competing in Portland over the last couple of weekends, taking on the very best in the country at the Royal Yachting Association's Olympic Class National Ranking series in the twin tip kitesurfing racing class. Held over four days, the event comprised a series of races and we are delighted to report that Anna won the Under 19 category which, as she says, "was made even cooler as I was the only girl competing! Kitesurfing is hugely male dominated, so being able to inspire more girls to learn this amazing sport feels amazing!"

Ten Tors 2022 – the training begins!

It was wonderful to see so many of our Lower 5 and Lower 6 put themselves forward for selection for this year's Ten Tors Challenge at the weekend. We took nearly 60 students out on to Dartmoor over Saturday and Sunday and the unanimous verdict of our staff was 'If we could take them all, we would!'

Alongside our new intake of students, we were also delighted to see so many of our new staff and parent volunteers out with us as well. It is no exaggeration to say that we couldn't do this without our volunteers giving up so much of their time (and energy!) – so, thank you to everyone who made this weekend such a success.

Well done to all those who made it through selection and our preparations are now well underway for our residential weekend at the end of November.



Jaspinder: My research of the Equality Act

We share with you this fascinating research undertaken by Jaspinder in the Upper 6 as part of her application to read Law at a top UK university next year.

What led me to research the Equality Act 2010 was my previous research into the 1984 Sikh genocide through my EPQ. As the genocide targeted a minority within India, I wanted to compare the response of legislation in India at that time, to the legislation we have in the UK today to target discrimination against people who possess certain characteristics. I looked into this Act more when studying the case of Sophie Lancaster, who was murdered on the basis of dressing and being 'unconventional' compared to society's standards. Hence it was interesting to research this legislation and see how it impacts and protects varying groups of people.

I think that reviewing the list of protected characteristics, types of discrimination and the impact of this Act was the most interesting. This Act protects a vast group of people wherever they may be and is there to ensure that they get justice for any disturbing and unsettling circumstances they were put in. Learning the difference between direct and indirect discrimination was insightful and I could then apply it to a simulated case study where someone was indirectly discriminated against, on the basis of their sexuality and beliefs. Moreover, what's positive is that this Act has had a huge impact in certain areas such as discrimination between genders in the workplace and racially motivated hate crimes as it provides stricter regulation than previous legislations. However, I also discovered that there is still room for more government action against the hate crimes that are still carried out in large numbers, meaning that this legislation isn't fully perfect.

What is the Equality Act 2010?

This Act legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society and was introduced on 1 October 2010. It brings together 116 separate pieces of legislation into one single act, which makes it easier to understand the law and strengthen protection in some situations.

Here are the 'protected characteristics' under this Act:

- Age
- Gender reassignment
- Being married or in a civil partnership
- Disability
- Race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Being pregnant or on maternity leave

You're protected from discrimination: at work, in education, as a consumer, when using public services, when buying or renting a property and as a member or guest of a private club or association.

Protection is also provided if you're associated with someone who has a protected characteristic or if you've complained about discrimination or have supported someone else's claim.

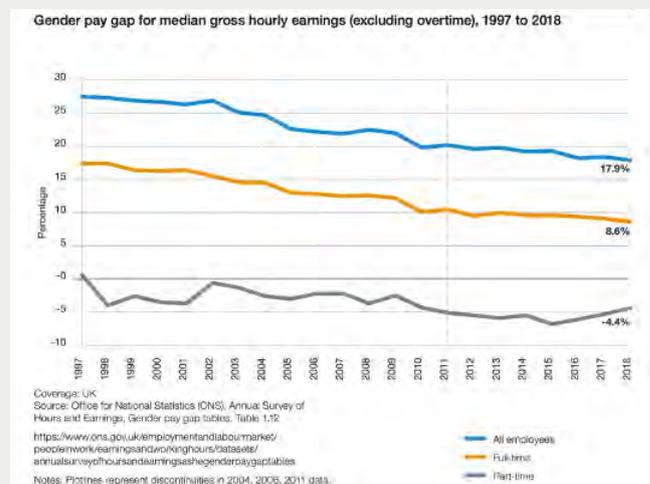
However, before the Equality Act 2010, there were other pieces of legislation that covered discrimination such as the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, Race Relations Act 1976, and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. This is useful as if you were subjected to unlawful treatment before October 2010, then the Equality Act would not apply. For example, if someone discriminated against you due to race in August 2010, then the Race Relations Act 1976 will cover you, not the Equality Act.

Types of Discrimination

- **direct discrimination** - treating someone with a protected characteristic less favourably than others
- **indirect discrimination** - putting rules or arrangements in place that apply to everyone, but

that put someone with a protected characteristic at an unfair disadvantage

- **harassment** - behaviour linked to a protected characteristic that violates someone's dignity and creates an unsettling environment for them
- **victimisation** - treating someone unfairly because they've complained about discrimination or harassment



An insight into the impact of the Equality Act 2010

Government figures suggest that after 2010 the gender pay gap for median gross hourly earnings for full-time employees had dropped from around 11% in 2010 to around 8.6% in 2018. Similarly, the gap in unemployment rates between men and women had also dropped from 2.5% in 2010 to 0.1% in 2018. Statistics from the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities Report show that the number of racially motivated hate crimes reduced from 149,000 between 2010-2012 to 104,000 between 2018-2020. Although the numbers are still high, the impact of the Equality Act 2010 can be seen as the introduction of these laws brought about stricter guidelines regarding discrimination and equality and resulted in a society that prominently promotes equality of opportunity and fairness within the UK.

Jaspinder



Remembrance Day fundraising

The whole school enjoyed a very moving ceremony on the double courts yesterday to mark Armistice Day. Our thanks to Mr Tabb and Head Girl, Lizzie, for their readings and to Dora and Mr Nutthall for the music.

However, due to difficulties faced by the British Legion, our poppies did not arrive this year. Many of their volunteers are quite elderly and for obvious reasons they have reduced their social and charitable activities over the last year. This is such an important cause and if you would like to donate in lieu of purchasing a poppy through school, you can do so through this link.

Christmas Charities

Please remind your daughters that, after the weekend, we will be asking them to vote for the charity that they would like to support this Christmas. The choices are:

A percentage of the Maynard Christmas Fayre money will go to charity. Each child & member of staff can vote once for their favourite, and all votes will be added to decide who we will support this Christmas. Please register your class votes with the school office by Friday 19th November!

Option 1:



BOUNCE! Brighter Children's Foundation is a Devon-based mental health charity supporting children and young people. Mental health support has always been needed, but now more than ever after covid-19 which has affected children and young people so much. Bounce offers counselling and therapy, training for parents and schools and last year offered 300 covid-19 crisis counselling sessions to the wider community. If you want to see happier, healthier children in Devon, this is a great charity to support.



Number of votes:

Option 2:



Children's Hospice South West provides hospice care for children and families who live in the South West. They have 3 centres across Devon, Cornwall and Somerset. They care for children and young people aged 0-21 who have a life-limiting or life-threatening condition and are not expected to survive into adulthood. They also provide support to their families. Facilities include a hydrotherapy pool, games, messy play, soft play and more... This year Children's Hospice SW is celebrating 30 years of helping children so it's a great time to support them!



Number of votes:

Option 3:



InFocus provides specialist care, education, therapy and support to help young people live with their visual impairment and other needs. Everyone's hopes and aims are different, but InFocus might help with things like catching a bus, learning to brush teeth independently, or finding work experience. The main site is based just up the road from The Maynard on The Topsham Road in Countess Wear so it really is a local charity!



Number of votes:

Coming soon... the MPA Christmas Fayre

In preparation for our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 27 November, we are hoping you will join us in helping in any way you can to make it the event of the year!

We are accepting donations for the all-new 'Chocolate Tombola' which can be dropped off in Reception any time before Friday 26 November. Any chocolate, big or small, bars, boxes or bags will be gratefully accepted.

Also, following the fabulous success of our debut hamper raffle last year, we are set to run it again this Christmas, with the draw taking place at the end of term. 25% of the money raised through the raffle will also be going to a local charity that the Senior School are voting on next week.

Prepare to be dazzled by 12 luxury colour themed hampers filled with festive treats, with each year group having a colour and we would love you to donate items to your class hamper.

Reception & Year 1
Orange
Year 2 Blue
Year 3 Red
Year 4 Gold
Year 5 Pink
Year 6 Green

Year 7 Black
Year 8 Turquoise
Year 9 Purple
Year 10 Silver
Year 11 Maroon
Sixth Form White

On Friday 26 November, the girls are able to join in a non-uniform day for donations to the Christmas Fayre. This can be in the form of a contribution to the class hamper raffle prize, and/or cakes or treats for the café (no nuts please and small individual portioned treats!) Donations are being collected at the Estates Office at school drop off time for the Senior School, and to the Junior School Hall for the Juniors!

And of course, we look forward to seeing you at the Fayre. Lots of stalls run by the girls, as well as local makers, and Santa himself!



WORDS of the Week

1. OBSCURE

(adjective): not discovered or known about; not easily seen.

(verb) to hide or to make unclear.

As an adjective: 'The true meaning of her words was **obscure** because she used so many curious metaphors.'

As a verb: 'The snow **obscured** the deep and dangerous crevasses.'

2. TANGENT (noun): a completely different line of thought or action.

"Although Linda was supposed to talk about her goals, she went off on a **tangent** about chocolate buttons"

Have a great weekend!