



Issue No 41

13th May 2022

Important Dates:

Monday 16th May
Year 11 Summer exams start

Wednesday 18th May
Year 8 Parents' Evening

Thursday 30th June
Year 11 Prom

See page 8 for more diary dates.

Email admin@millfield.lancs.sch.uk
Website: www.millfield.lancs.sch.uk
Twitter page @millfieldhighsc
#BeExceptional
#TeamMillfield



Millfield MESSENGER

Belvedere Road, Thornton Cleveleys, FY5 5DG

Telephone 01253 865929



Dear Parents and Carers

I thought I'd begin this Messenger writing about the benefits of reading for pleasure. Our Key Stage 3 classes have one dedicated reading lesson per week, and during this lesson students also study and recap SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar). Evidence suggests that there is a positive relationship between reading frequency, reading enjoyment and attainment. Reading improves general knowledge, gives a better understanding of other cultures and deepens your child's breadth of vocabulary. This enables students to access the full curriculum, in other words reading does not just see improvements in English lessons, but in all lessons. Reading for just 15 minutes per day seems to be the "magic number" at which students start seeing substantial positive gains in reading achievement; students who read for half an hour to an hour per day see the greatest gains of all. Our school library has a plethora of books your child can choose from, or if you need any book recommendations, this is a great website: <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/b/best-books-for-teens-teen/>

Our Performing Arts Showcase raised an incredible £1,139.58. Thank you to all parents, students and staff that attended the event to support our exceptionally talented performers.

Our Year 10 Child Development classes have made their flour babies and they look amazing! They have all done a great job looking after their babies and understanding the demands of being a parent – well done to them all!

We are incredibly proud of our Head Girl, Hannah Mullin, who has been appointed as the new Youth Mayor. Hannah is an inspirational young woman, who will be a fantastic ambassador for young people.

Our Year 11s have been amazing; last week they had their French speaking exams (if any of you studied an MFL, I am fairly certain you will be able to remember your speaking exam!) and they were exceptional! The MFL team were amazed at their dedication and skills!

Please can I remind parents that they should not take their child out of school for a holiday; this year we have seen an unprecedented rise in children being taken on holiday during term time and missing out on vital learning. In every lesson teachers are working hard to ensure students are caught up on any missed learning from Covid absences, and when a student misses even a day of school they are missing out on this important knowledge and skills check our teachers and their peers are completing.

We use Twitter to celebrate the achievements of our students and remind our families of events, please follow us at @millfieldhighsc.

Best wishes

Nicola Regan
Headteacher

Be Exceptional!



KEY 3



All students in KS3 have been working enthusiastically and have been making excellent progress. Over the last few weeks, I have been on two courses that were completely different. Firstly, I attended a course on developing students' Mental health through PSHE lessons. This was a real eye opener to some of the beliefs our students have and how their opinions can be shaped by what is going on around them. The course delved into how playing computer games can promote online gambling through loot boxes and then how students view what is a safe relationship, concluding with how quickly this can take a turn for the worse. In school, we will be delivering sessions with students through RSE days and we will be inviting a team from Gamblers Anonymous in to deliver these topics to our students to highlight the dangers.

My second course was a first aid course. I have been a first aider for over 12 years and it still amazes me the dangers that we face on a day-to-day basis which we all take for granted. In the final half term before the Summer Holidays, all of our Year 9 students will be completing a day of first aid training but it is also important that our students know the safety procedures in their homes and what to do in an emergency. Even knowing the basic information about what they will be asked if they call the emergency number 999 or 112. With this in mind, a dedicated form time will be given to First Aid in the coming weeks.



Graduation and Exceptional Programme

The Graduation and Exceptional Awards programmes are now coming to the end. Students have until the May half term to complete the tasks to see which grade they will graduate with. Special considerations will be made for attendance this year, but tasks will need to be completed. Final amendments are being made to the Graduation Ceremony and party day. Distinction star students will be choosing their end of year trip. Students will not want to miss out when the ceremonies come around! A lot of planning is going into the week to allow all students to really be rewarded for their hard work, dedication and perseverance throughout the year.



Miss Miller Crook - Year 7 Progress Lead
Mr. Booth - Head of Aspirations
Mr. Smith - Head of Personal Development

Mr. Smith—Head of Personal Development

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATES

DATES TO REMEMBER

MONDAY 11th JULY—GRADUATION EVENING
WEDNESDAY 13th JULY—GRADUATION TRIP
THURSDAY 14th JULY—GRADUATION PARTY



KEY STAGE 4

It has been an exciting couple of weeks for Key Stage 4 students. As previously mentioned a number of Year 10s have been attending the Peace and Conflict conferences at Blackpool Sixth Form College. Last week students were privileged to be able to listen to and ask questions of two World War Two veterans, a veteran from Northern Ireland and a veteran from Afghanistan. It was an enlightening and interesting experience.



Congratulations to Ella and Richard who are Head Girl and Head Boy and to Grace, Phoebe, Callum and Callum who are their deputies. Congratulations also to the senior prefect team who will be announced next week. We are certain that students will perform their roles well.



Year 11 are rapidly approaching the main GCSE season. Behaviour and attitude in both the French Speaking tests and the Health and Wellbeing exam were exemplary and I'm sure this will continue throughout the exams. We are really proud of our Year 11s and how they have coped with the last two years and wish them every success in their exams.

Miss C. Gower
Head of Key Stage 4



This week our candidates for Head Boy and Head Girl presented to a Year 7 assembly and then had an interview. I'm sure the candidates felt it was a gruelling but rewarding experience and we were very impressed with their performance.



Deputy Headteacher's Maths Challenge



Football Scores Investigation



BOLTON 4 - 2 FLEETWOOD

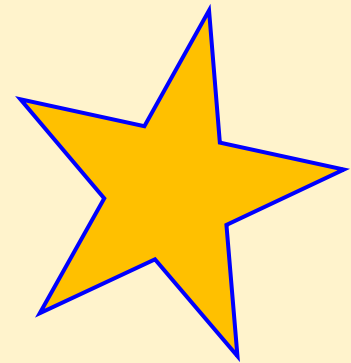
If this was the final score in a game of football, what could the half time scores be?

How many possibilities are there?

Investigation

1. For the following football scores, where there is only 1 goal difference, work out all the possible half time scores and fill in the table:

Final Score	Number of Possible Half Time Scores
1 - 0	
2 - 1	
3 - 2	
4 - 3	
5 - 4	



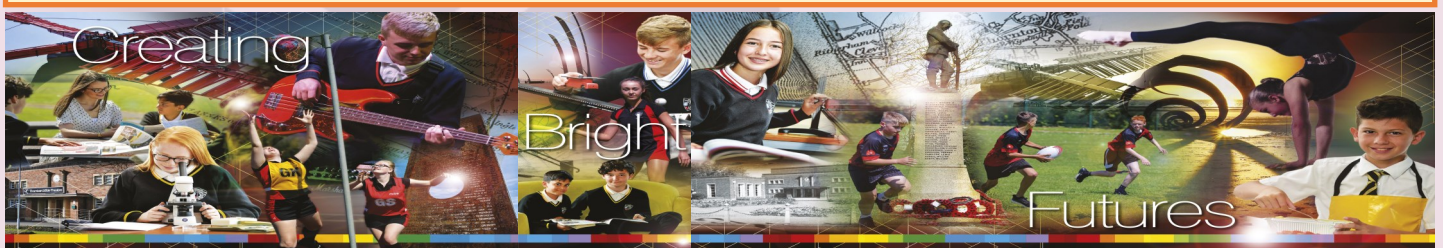
Can you make a rule that would enable you to work out how many half time scores are possible for a game that finished 8 - 7?

2. Suppose the games ended in a draw. Find a rule which would tell you the number of possible half time scores for a game finishing 7 - 7.

3. Investigate for other final scores (2 goal differences, 3 goal differences, etc.). Find a rule which gives the number of different half time scores for any final score (say $a - b$)

Please email your solutions to Mr Humphreys at:

b.humphreys@millfield.lancs.sch.uk



Home - Learning

Here at Millfield we celebrate excellence and home-learning is no exception. Home-learning is a vital part of your child's education, and it is critical that you, as a parent, encourage them to engage to the best of their ability. This way we can continue to celebrate in their achievements, and they continue to make you proud of their time here at Millfield.

Congratulations go to students in Religious Education - who have produced outstanding examples of home learning, in which they have focused on thought provoking topics connected to different cultures/beliefs regarding the afterlife.

Reminder

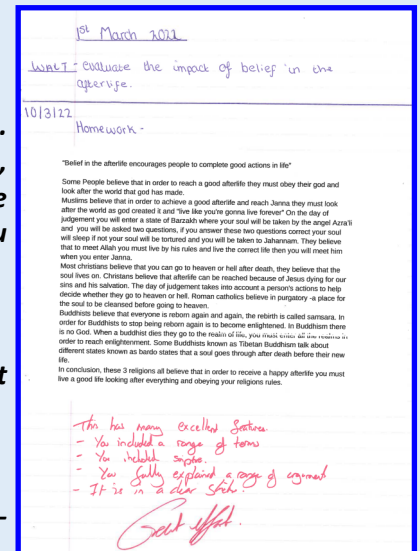
The provision of home learning is undergoing a transfer to another software provider, and we no longer utilise Galaxy as a means of setting home learning.

Whilst this is underway the students will primarily be using their planners to record all home learning for the foreseeable future.

If you require any further information about our home-learning please do not hesitate to contact me - g.wood@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

Mr. G. Wood

Lead Practitioner of Teaching and Learning (Technology).



Child Development

Our Year 10 Child Development classes have made flour babies and they look amazing! They have all done a great job looking after their babies and understanding the demands of being a parent – well done to them all!



Wonderful Art



Mrs. Devaney pushed Year 10 out of their comfort zones whilst drawing with sticks and ink. Take a look at all the detail in those shells. Absolutely amazing artwork. Well done!



Message from

Thornton-Cleveleys Gala Committee

Volunteers needed

Sunday 12th June

Can you help on gala day?

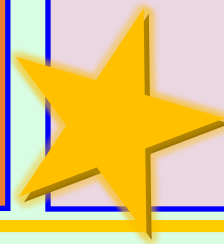
Lots of jobs/roles available, even if it's just an hour!

Please contact Helen Moorhouse

Helenemoorhouse@hotmail.co.uk

DID YOU KNOW?

Sixteen-year-olds who read books for pleasure outside of school hours are more likely to secure professional, managerial jobs in later life.



Student Council

In the coming weeks, we will be focusing on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We will be looking to decorate the school in a sea of red, white and blue as well as informing students about the fantastic work that the

Queen has done for various charities over the years. We will also be promoting the official Platinum Jubilee creative completion that is being presented by Angelica Bell (CBBC, Children in Need, The One Show).



The Challenge:

All you need to do is design a special crown to wear to celebrate the Jubilee weekend. From colouring pens and paint, glitter and sequins – use your favourite materials to make your perfect crown for the Platinum Jubilee and send us a pic or video of your entry.

And if you want to do something equally fitting, you can share your other Platinum Jubilee creations – from poems and videos to whatever else you'll be making for the Jubilee weekend, paying tribute to The Queen. We want to see all your creative artworks! Selected crowns will be shown on the official Platinum Jubilee website. There will also be a special prize for the best design within school.

How to enter:

Post your creative content on social media using the **#PlatinumJubilee** hashtag and tagging **DCMS** using **@DCMS** on Twitter or **@dcmsgovuk** and Facebook and Instagram. Email your entries to **creativechallenge@dcms.gov.uk** we'll feature a selection on the website. Just include your first name, age and town, alongside your entry.

Submit your entry to Mr Booth (C5 in science).

The benefits of No Mow May

RARE PLANTS

Participants in No Mow May 2021 saw 250 plant varieties in their lawns, including rarities such as wild orchids, meadow saxifrage and eyebright.

HELP FOR BEES

Just eight dandelion flowers can produce enough nectar sugar to keep an adult bumblebee alive.

WILDLIFE BOOST

As well as 24 types of bees, creatures helped by longer lawns include 25 varieties of moths – and butterflies too.

No Mow May

Walk past your lawnmower this May and make yourself a brew instead. This month is No Mow May, which means you can sit back and let that grass grow. It's not too late to take part, so even if you have already mowed your lawn, you can still leave it for the rest of the month. Letting the grass and wildflowers grow this month helps bees, butterflies, moths,

beetles, and other pollinators. If a lawn is left for one month, plant species biodiversity increases, providing vital food for pollinators. Dandelions are particularly great for bees and butterflies, acting as a superfood. At the end of the month, before you mow again, see if you can identify any of the wildflowers growing and record them with the Every Flower Counts survey. Post your colourful gardens on Twitter and tag us. We would love to see the results!

Mrs. L. McCaffery

Not sure what your son or daughter is studying in school this term?



Have a look on our school website where you will find the 'Learning Journeys' for every subject. The Learning Journeys give details about what is being studied each half term from the start of Year 7 right up to when students leave in Year 11.

POLITE REMINDER:

For the safety of all of our students at the start and the end of the day can I remind parents who are dropping off and picking up by car not to drive too quickly down Belvedere Road and to be courteous of other road users when parking. Many thanks for your understanding and support.

Teaching and Learning Tips

Year 9 VESPA Group (Vision, Effort, System, Practice, Attitude)

A group of Year 9 students have been working with Ms Copping and Mr Griffiths to improve their learner scores. Students have met as a group to work through the VESPA programme. This is designed to support students in improving their learner scores by:

- * Improved vision - having a clear goal they want to achieve.
- * Improved effort - being proactive with independent study and home learning.
- * Improved systems - organising their learning resources at home.
- * Improved practice - using effective revision strategies.
- * Improved attitude - developing a positive growth mindset to respond constructively to setbacks.

We are absolutely delighted to share how hard the students have worked and the positive impact this has had on their learner scores. They have proven that hard work and effort leads to success.



Miss J. Copping
Lead Practitioner of Teaching & Learning (Foundation Subjects).

**JOIN OUR
TEAM**

**TEACHING
ASSISTANT
POSITIONS
AVAILABLE**

**Please look on our school website for
further details or alternatively contact
school on 01253 865929**



**Extra-Curricular
Activities
Summer Term
2022**

**Please take a look at
our updated
Extra-Curricular
Activities booklet
which is located on
our school website.**

DATES FOR 2022

Y8 Parents' Evening - 18th May
Year 11 Prom - 30th June
Induction Day (Y6) - 1st July
Graduation Evening—11th July
Big Gig— 12th & 13th July
Graduation Trip—13th July
Graduation Party—14th July
Sports Day—15th July
Activities Day—18th July
School closes for Summer –20th July



Pastoral and Wellbeing



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert; potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Mr. Deville

Assistant Headteacher in charge of Behaviour and Safeguarding