



Issue No 48
11 November 2022

**DATES FOR
2022/2023**

Year 11 MFL Speaking Exams -
14th, 15th & 16th
November 2022

Year 11 Mock Exams -
21st November - 2nd
December 2022

Year 11 Art Mock Exam -
5th, 6th, 8th & 9th
December 2022

Parent Forum -
7th December 2022

All School Carol Services -
14th & 15th
December 2022

Year 10 Mock Interview Day -
18th January 2023

Celebration of Music -
6th March 2023

Careers Fayre Day -
8th March 2023

E-mail admin@millfield.lancs.sch.uk
Website: www.millfield.lancs.sch.uk
Twitter page @millfieldhighsc
#BeExceptional



Millfield MESSENGER

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you had a restful and enjoyable half term. If you have not yet had the chance to watch it, please do look at the school website where you will see a wonderful video of our students talking about "Why We Love Millfield".

Thank you to everyone who has donated old uniform to the school; it is fabulous to see what a caring community we are part of! If you have anything to donate, please just send it in with your child.

We have received a number of emails of concern about some students riding their bikes, and even scooters, dangerously in Thornton Village – sometimes in large groups, sometimes on the wrong side of the road and on the pavements. Unless you are confident that your child has good road sense (including when they are with their friends) and wears a helmet, if they are within walking distance of school, I would strongly advise they walk to school for their own safety.

May I take this opportunity to remind our Year 11 families that their child should now have a revision timetable in place and should be revising every evening and at the weekend. Whilst it is important that all students have some down time, it is also vitally important to remember that starting revision early will improve your child's final results next year. There are again a number of students who are telling us that they are not revising due to being at work and I urge parents to consider the impact this will have on their results and their futures. Our *How to Help Your Child Revise* session can be found on the school website (in the parents' section). You can also contact Mr Wood for help and advice.

It is wonderful to see so many students getting involved in the wealth of extracurricular opportunities we have on offer at Team Millfield! Just as an example, we've got Erin in Year 11 running the Welsh Club and Kai in Year 10 who is qualified to teach British Sign Language and is starting our first-ever BSL Club. Our talented dancers are busy practising for the show at the Winter Gardens and our fantastic Year 7 netball teams recently won against Cardinal Allen! Our English department are running a journalism and newspaper club, and our after-school STEM Club is buzzing with students learning new skills. I received this wonderful email from a parent: "Because of your inspirational STEM club - what an influence informal learning can have! I just wanted to say a well done and thank you to the teachers running the club - it has given my child the motivation to independently build on many skills, including resilience when something doesn't work quite as planned! Also, a side thank you to other teachers who make their resources available at lunchtimes to support this independent learning such as DT and Computer Science. What a fabulous place to be learning!"

From Monday 7th November, we are starting a library swap shop; students can bring in any unwanted second-hand books and swap them for new (second-hand) ones in the library!

We use Twitter to celebrate our students and remind parents of upcoming events, you can follow us at @millfieldhighsc.

Best wishes

N. Regan

Nicola Regan
Headteacher

Be Exceptional!

What's happening in Key Stage 3?

Year 7 – Mr Greenall

As we approach Christmas, we are looking closely at the behaviour and attendance of Year 7 and we have high expectations that were implemented at the beginning of the school year. I look forward to working with the year 7s again for another half term, supporting all students in their learning and pastoral. There are many extra-curricular activities that are available along with homework support club to support students in their home learning.

Year 8 – Miss Miller-Crook

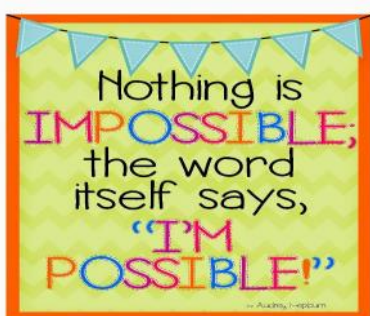
I hope all our students have had a lovely half term and feel refreshed and ready to learn. I will be monitoring behaviour very closely this term to ensure the highest quality of behaviour for learning is demonstrated by students in lessons. Low level disruption in lessons is unacceptable and prevents others from meeting their full potential. I am looking forward to working with parents, as well as supporting those students who present any undesirable behaviours in lessons, in order to ensure students are able to meet their potential.

Year 9 - Mrs Clare

After a lovely half term, we are back and ready for another busy term. This term we have progress evening and updated learner scores that will help us adapt our learning techniques and see the students that need support as well as students who have worked extremely hard and increased their scores. The graduation programme is still going strong with lots of students completing their tasks to help towards the end goal of graduating.

I am monitoring behaviour very closely and will be inviting parents in for meetings to discuss with them where we can make improvements. There are lots of extra curricular activities available at lunch time and after school. Please don't forget that there is also a homework club after school for students who need some support or are struggling to complete work at home.

I look forward to another busy term with year 9 and I am extremely proud of their effort since returning to Millfield in September.



Year 10 - Mr Griffiths

With all students now settled into their GCSE options, we are continuing to focus on student work experience. We are supported by Mrs Draper in assisting with work experience placements for students who are struggling to find their own. So far, we have students who have found placements within hair and beauty, schools, the military and hospitality. Please can I encourage all parents and students to try and secure a placement as soon as possible, and if support is needed please get in touch with either myself or Mrs Draper.

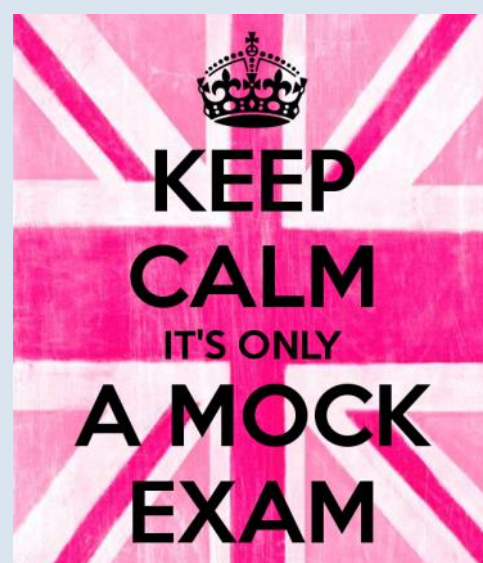


Year 11 – Mrs Doran

I am proud of the effort the Year 11s have been displaying since September for their final year at Millfield. It has been lovely to see so many of them staying after school and attending intervention to support their learning further as we approach their mock exams.

We have started supervised revision on Wednesdays after school which is useful for those students who may struggle to get motivated with revision at home; staff will also help with revision timetables and provide revision tips.

Mock examinations commence on 14th November and will continue until 9th December. Year 11's currently have exclusive use of the theatre at lunchtimes so I'd like to see us use this space as much as we can!



Student Council

***Meet our new
student Council!***

Oliver O'Neil Yr7	Archie Bowater Yr9
Amelia Nicholls Yr8	Harriet Whitaker Yr10
Bella McIlwraith Yr8	Erin Hill Yr10
Kian Forsyth Yr8	Olivia Clueit Yr10
Emily Smith Yr8	Emily Hume Yr10
Jessica Garside Yr9	Isabel Daniells Yr10

Now our fantastic team has been assembled, they are already excited to try and make a change for students in school. During our first meeting, the students highlighted key areas in school that they wish could be modified and with the support of SLT, ideas for change are being gathered.

One of the issues that the students wish to try and support our school family with is the Christmas Hampers which we provide for families in need in the local community. This year, like no other, will be a challenging year for many and the school council have set an agenda to try and support as many as possible. We will be writing to local businesses for support and creating an advert which will be placed on social media and the school website, to rally support for our campaign. We will be looking for donations of food, toiletries and Christmas presents from students and their families in school, as well as holding various fund-raising activities, including glow in the dark dodgeball, a year 11 charity football match and a non-uniform day. We hope as many people can get involved with these activities as possible, to support people in our own community.

WORK EXPERIENCE

The dates for the Year 10 Work Experience will be

20th March – 31st March 2023

Please assist by talking to your child about work experience and supporting them with questions they may have.

**Self Placement Forms (Green Form) to be returned by
Thursday 1st December 2022.**

Work Experience Support Hub

Every Wednesday Lunchtime in A41

Students can receive advise, discuss work experience opportunities or make phone calls

Any problems, please send students to A50 to see me -Mrs Draper .

Home-Learning: why is it important?

Home-learning bridges the gap between school and home. Here at Millfield, we believe in a collaborative approach, which allows students, teachers and parents to monitor the progress of their child in the learning process. Common home-learning assignments may include required reading, writing or typing projects, mathematical exercises to be completed, information to be reviewed before a test, or other skills to be practised.

As a parent, here are a few things you may wish to consider:

Pro 1 – Home-learning improves student achievement.

Studies show that home-learning improves student achievement in terms of improved grades, test results, and the likelihood of attending college.

Pro 2- Home-learning helps to reinforce learning and develop good study habits and life skills.

Everyone knows that practise makes perfect. Students typically retain only 50% of the information teachers provide in class, and they need to apply that information in order to truly learn it.

Pro 3- Home-learning allows parents to be involved with their child's learning.

Thanks to take-home assignments, parents are able to track what their children are learning at school, as well as their academic strengths and weaknesses.



Reminder

In order to support your child with their home learning, please regularly log into Synergy to monitor the tasks that have been set and remind your child to complete them. The home learning policy can be viewed on our school website; this explains how much home learning your child should be set each week and the types of tasks they could be set.

Teaching and Learning update – Challenge and Scaffolding

Here at Millfield, we strive to ensure that all our students achieve highly, and that challenge lies at the very heart of our curriculum. This term we will be working on how we can push our students out of their comfort zone and engage in tasks which make them think deeply and raise the level of challenge in their learning.

To ensure all our students are able to access our challenging curriculum, teachers will be considering different ways to scaffold learning. Scaffolding is a temporary support that allows students to successfully complete tasks; it is taken away when it is no longer needed.

Teachers will be using visual scaffolds such as a task planner or images to support students' vocabulary learning.

Verbal scaffolding is another technique that staff will be employing. This might include teachers live marking students' work and reminding them of what they need to do to make progress or prompting them to correct literacy errors.

Finally, teachers will be utilising written scaffolds. This could include word banks or sentence starts to help students. It could also be a writing frame to help students to structure their work successfully.

If you would like to find out more about challenge and scaffolding here at Millfield, or how you can challenge or support your child at home, please don't hesitate to contact the teaching and learning team who will be happy to discuss this with you.



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER

Layla Ryder	7 S1 ASN
Charlotte Vance	7 S1 ASN
Timur Whiteside	7 S1 ASN
Lily Slack	7 S1 ASN
Leo Rossi	7 S1 ASN
George Davies	7 S1 ASN



All of the above students have been nominated by the Technology department for their excellent work in Technology



Attendance

This has been an exceptional first half term with students at Millfield attending 1.9% higher than the national average:

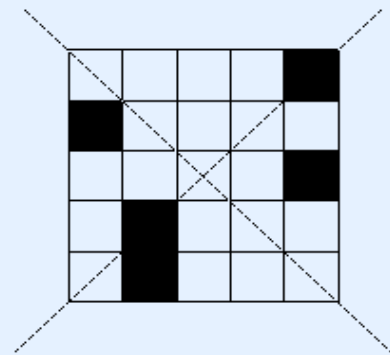


Excellent attendance will be rewarded throughout the year and Activities day in July will be for students who have outstanding attendance for the full year.

Deputy Headteacher's Maths Challenge



If you continue shading the squares so that the two dotted lines become lines of symmetry (mirror lines) of the completed diagram, how many squares will be left unshaded?



Please email your worked solution to Mr Humphreys - b.humphreys@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

Well done to **Poppy Thompson** (Year 7) for correctly solving the last challenge.

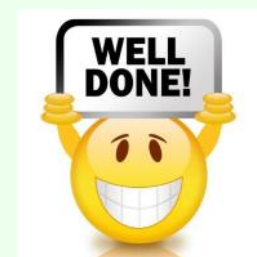
Poppy's solution:

30 divided by 3 (apples) = **10 (1 apple)**

18 minus 10 (1 apple) = 8, 8 divided by 2 (2 bananas) = **4 (1 banana)**

1 banana (4) – **1 coconut (2)** = 2

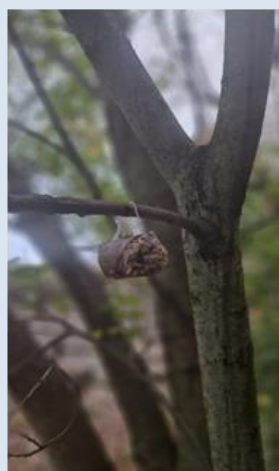
Coconut (2) + apple (10) + banana (4) = **16**



FEED THE BIRDS

Now we are well into autumn, food sources for local birds are starting to reduce. Putting out food and water on a regular basis will help birds to maintain their fat reserves. The best times to put out food are in the morning and early evening, with high-fat foods the best, such as suet balls and seed mixtures. Never give birds left over cooking fat due to bacteria growth and salt levels, or milk products. Bird feeders also need to be monitored, as underused feeders will develop bacteria.

On Tuesday 1st November, the Millfield Eco-Warriors made their own bird feeders with seed mix, mealworms, and lard. We mixed the three together, then applied the mixture to the outside of toilet roll tubes, and the inside of toilet roll tubes that were cut in half. We got very messy but had fun, whilst knowing we were helping the local wildlife. The students chose to hang their feeders in the school's environmental garden using natural wool (make sure the wool isn't synthetic as it will not biodegrade).



If you have, or make, any bird feeders, and get bird visitors, please share your photographs with us on Twitter (@MillfieldEco).

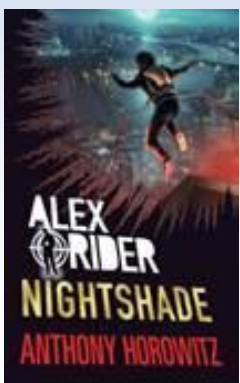
For more information on bird feeding and feeders, visit www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-can-help-birds/feeding-birds/



Book Buzz

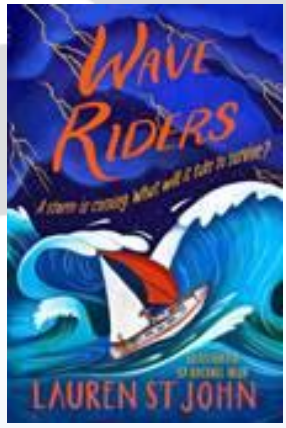
Our Year 7 have had the opportunity to select one of a choice of 17 different titles from this year's Bookbuzz books, which they then get to keep. They have arrived in school this week and will be distributed during English lessons. Here are some of our students who have already received theirs. They are absolutely delighted with this gift from the Booktrust reading charity and Team Millfield and they absolutely cannot wait to start reading their brilliant Bookbuzz books!

Please use this link to find a synopsis of each book below [The Bookbuzz books | BookTrust](#)



Library Books of the Week: Alex Rider: Nightshade by Anthony Horowitz.

The 13th book in the Alex Rider series, this slick and sophisticated spy drama will thrill existing fans and convert new ones.



Library Books of the Week: Wave Riders by Lauren St John.

Packed with deception, red herrings, villainous baddies and a sense of ever-present threat, this is a mystery to keep readers guessing.



**THE MORE YOU
READ THE
MORE THINGS
YOU KNOW.**

**THE MORE THAT
YOU LEARN THE
MORE PLACES
YOU'LL GO.**

teachbesideme.com -Dr. Seuss

Uniform swap-Shop / Pre-loved Uniform

Due to the increasing living costs and our proactive approach to addressing the financial burden of uniform costs, we are proud of our newly opened "Uniform Swap Shop". We are encouraging all families and the local community to donate any unwanted uniform to school, which can then be re-used by others who are in need of specific items or whole uniforms. There is a drop off box at the front of school in reception for anybody wishing to donate. For anybody wishing to make the most of this cost saving initiative, please complete a request form which can be found in the main reception foyer or email your child's Progress Lead directly.



Year 7: Mr Greenall

r.greenall@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

Year 8: Miss Miller-Crook

g.miller-crook@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

Year 9: Mrs Clare

t.clare@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

Year 10: Mr Griffiths

k.griffiths@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

Year 11: Mrs Doran

c.doran@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

“
YOU DON'T
WANT TO
LOOK BACK
AND KNOW
YOU
COULD
HAVE DONE
BETTER.”



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.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP NEW DEVICES FOR CHILDREN

At Christmas, millions of lucky children will be excitedly ripping the wrapping off new phones, tablets, computers or consoles. However, in the rush to let young ones enjoy their shiny gadgets, many parents neglect to set these devices up safely – increasing the chances of children going online and stumbling across adult content, making expensive downloads or installing unsuitable apps. A little time configuring the device properly can save a lot of anguish later. Here are our top tips to ensure that a dream gift on Christmas morning doesn't turn into a nightmare by New Year.

PASSCODES FOR IPHONE/IPAD

If your child's getting their own iPhone or iPad, you can set parental controls that make it difficult for them to access inappropriate content or download expensive apps. Once the device is set up, go to the Settings app and tap Screen Time, then select Use Screen Time Passcode and enter a passcode. Keep it to yourself so your child can't switch the protection off.

SCREEN TIME SETTINGS ON IPHONE/IPAD

Once you've set a Screen Time Passcode, you can adjust various safety settings. You could, for example, only allow communication with people from the Contacts app, place restrictions on App Store purchases and apply age limits to movies, music and web content. There are many more protective options available within the Screen Time settings section.

FAMILY LINK FOR ANDROID

Parents can manage Android phones and tablets, as well as Google Chromebooks, through Google's Family Link app. This gives your child some independence (and their own Google account) but lets parents monitor which apps are being used, set limits on content and ensure that parental permission is required to install apps. Look for Family Link in the Google Play Store.

ADD A CHILD TO FAMILY LINK

The easiest way to add a child's device to Family Link is to set it up with its own Google account. It's a good idea to create this before they use their new phone, tablet or Chromebook. Once they're logged in, open the Family Link app on your phone, press '+' in the top right and add a new family member using their Google account details. Then follow the on-screen instructions.

FAMILY SHARING ON A MAC

Families using a Mac get similar screen time options to iPhone and iPad users. Again, if you're setting up a Mac for a child, make yourself the main admin and add them as a user. This is handled through Apple's Family Sharing service, which not only allows you to put controls on child accounts but share apps and other purchases with them too. Search 'family sharing' at <https://support.apple.com>.

PLAYSTATION PARENTAL CONTROLS

With parental controls for the PS5, you'll need a PlayStation Network account (as the 'family manager') and the child will need their own account, which they should sign in with on the console. This all needs to be set up in advance, so you might want to do it before the big day. Go to PlayStation.com and search 'family account' for instructions.

DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR CHILD

If you're planning to implement any kind of restriction or protection settings on your child's new device, we'd recommend having a discussion with your young one first about what these controls do, and what they are for. If you try to impose parental controls surreptitiously or with no advance warning, don't be surprised if your child tries to find a way around them.

SET AN ADMIN ON PCS

On Windows PCs and laptops, it's important not to let your child share a general user account or be the main admin on the device. If you're booting up a new family PC or a child's own device, set it up using your own account details and you'll become the admin by default. Then set up children with their own separate account: Settings > Accounts > Family & Other Users > Add Other User.

SET WINDOWS LIMITS

Once your child's account has been created, a parent admin can go back into the Family & Other Users menu and apply limits to it. These include restricting screen time, the type of games and apps that can be installed, web filters and more. Microsoft also includes reporting tools which, for example, can email you with a weekly summary of your child's activity on the device.

TREAT AN XBOX LIKE A PC

The same control settings you use for a PC can be used to apply parental controls on an Xbox. Again, once your child is signed into the Xbox with their own account, you can then monitor and regulate their activity from a PC or web browser. Microsoft's dashboard allows you to manage voice communication through the console, so you can limit who can contact your child, for example.

INSTALL XBOX FAMILY SETTINGS

If you don't have a PC, but your child does have an Xbox, it might be easier to use the Xbox Family Settings app for iPhone or Android. Here, you can restrict console screen time (particularly handy if the console is in a bedroom), restrict communication and monitor the types of game being played. There's also a feature where you can allocate spending money for games or in-game purchases.

STAY VIGILANT

It's important to remember that none of these methods is 100% foolproof. Nobody will ever invent flawless filters or parental controls – not least because what's unacceptable to some parents is perfectly acceptable to others. So although devices' parental controls will help to keep your child safe online, they work best side by side with good old-fashioned parental vigilance.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.

