

Issue No 12

1st March



March 6th

Careers Day

March 7th

World Book Day

March 7 - 15th

Year 11 Mock Exams
- Core Subjects

March 12th

Celebration of Music
- Winter Gardens

March 15th - 18th

Years 8 & 9 France
History Trip

March 18th - 22nd

Careers Week

March 20th

Year 7 Progress
Evening

March 22nd

Drama Exam



E-mail admin@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

Website: www.millfield.lancs.sch.uk

X page [@millfieldhighsc](https://twitter.com/millfieldhighsc)

#BeExceptional



Millfield MESSENGER

Belvedere Road, Thornton Cleveleys, FY5 5DG

Telephone 01253 865929

Dear Parents and Carers

It's great to see students and staff coming back to school refreshed and in much better health after the February half term break! We had a lot of students absent before half term with some nasty bugs going around, highlighted in our attendance percentage dropping below national average for the first time since September.

Some of our Year 10s, unfortunately, have some of the lowest attendance in the school and they are missing out on valuable learning for their GCSE and vocational subjects. We've explained to students, if their attendance falls below 85% and they keep having random days off school it will have a significant negative impact on their final grades next year. Concerningly, when we speak to these students, they invariably cannot even give us a reason why they were off, and their parents haven't contacted us with a reason for absence.

Of course, totals and percentages mean little other than to illustrate the problem we face in school. **What matters most is your own child's attendance. Missing two weeks for a family holiday taken in term time will mean that your child has missed 50 hours of learning new things which they will never be fully taught again, and they may face questions on in an exam in the future.** Having broken attendance (a day off every week for a fortnight, on random days) means that students will miss five hours of new learning for every day of absence and will struggle to understand the work they do the following lesson because lessons are taught in sequences, which rely on prior knowledge. Please can I ask that if your child is absent from school regularly (students should have full attendance most weeks), you seek to address this and ask us for support if you are struggling with your child.

There's some considerable excitement with the Year 10s this week as the application process for our new **senior students** for 2024/2025 is underway. Students have had an assembly and can pick up an application pack from Miss Gower. They have until **Friday 15th March** to submit their applications to Miss Gower and interviews will take place in my office on 22nd April.

May I ask that the parents/carers of students who wear skirts to school, ensure that their children are coming to school with skirts that are of an appropriate length. The policy clearly states that skirts should be knee length, and this is not being adhered to by a significant number of students. We introduced opaque tights in a bid to ensure our students look smart and professional whilst in school and in the community and whilst this does make the students look much smarter, some skirts are still at an incredibly inappropriate length. Please bear this in mind when you are purchasing new skirts.

The only whole school social media the school uses is Twitter (X): [@millfieldhighsc](https://twitter.com/millfieldhighsc), please follow us to see daily updates of what our students are learning across the school.

Best wishes

Mrs. N. Regan

Headteacher



Be Exceptional!

Careers 20 CONVENTION 24



BAE SYSTEMS



Career Atlas
Mapping your future



North West
Ambulance Service
NHS Trust



PRESTON
COLLEGE

**ROYAL
AIR FORCE**



Hays Travel



FLEETWOOD
NAUTICAL
CAMPUS



Myerscough
College & University Centre
INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

**6TH
MARCH**
IN SPORTS HALL

THROUGHOUT THE DAY STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND THE CAREERS CONVENTION AND SPEAK TO EMPLOYERS, UNIVERSITIES, AND COLLEGES ABOUT THE COURSES AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE AVAILABLE ON LEAVING SCHOOL.

Be Exceptional





ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

AI

AI stands for **Artificial Intelligence** and can be used to generate images, text and create music. As a school we are educating students on how/when to use this technology as there can be serious consequences for the misuse.

- Students are not allowed to use AI in assessments/examinations.
- Students are not allowed to use AI in their home learning tasks.
- If AI has been allowed, students are to reference the AI tool they have used.



TEACHING & LEARNING

The Teaching and Learning team have continued to encourage staff to be self-reflective in their teaching practice using IRIS Connect.

What is IRIS?

IRIS is a tool that allows teaching staff to record their lessons and review it via a secure, private account. Allowing staff to:

- continuously improve through effective self-reflection
- receive valuable, contextualised feedback from a colleague or coach at the click of a button
- share resources and build libraries of real teaching practice in a secure place online

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

Lily Hewitt	10 C LKY
Lilly Holder	10 H CGO
Brooke Phasey	10 E HCL
Gabbi Elliott	10 F AMR
Summer Hadley	10 D RBL
Lauren Eastwood	10 A KHA
Amelie Whitworth	10 B NDA
Maisie Carr	10 E HCL

The students have been nominated by Miss Taylor for their excellent work in Child Development & Health & Social Care.





& Graduation

This half term, the student council have been preparing for discussions with the school Senior Leadership Team (SLT) about what students like about their school and how the school can be further improved.

The student council were delighted with the update from our previous meeting with SLT and how the points made last time had already been implemented around school.

The student council has also started to plan a charity event in the summer term and a drive to promote positive mental health in students.

The **Year 9 Graduation** programme is now coming to an end.

Students have until the May half term to complete the tasks to determine which grade they will graduate with.

There will be no special considerations for attendance this year, and tasks will need to be completed.

Final arrangements are being made for the graduation ceremony and party day. Distinction star students will also be choosing their end of year trip after the Easter holidays. **Students will not want to miss out when the ceremonies come around!**

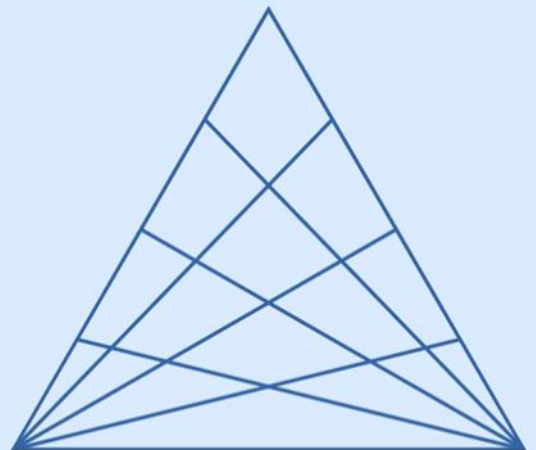
Follow Millfield on X for more photos, updates and information about upcoming events at the school.

@millfieldhighsc

** Deputy Headteacher's Maths Challenge **

How many triangles are there in this diagram?

Bonus question: How many quadrilaterals?



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

HOME LEARNING PAGE

Knowledge is power

The more knowledge and skills you can build up during your school years, the bigger the pay-off will be for you throughout your life. Look at it like this: The school teaches you something and you practice it at home by doing your home learning. That reinforcement you have through home learning builds up your knowledge a little more each time. So what you have done is improve your mind's ability to deal with this subject in future as well as helping you deal with other problems on other subjects because your brain will call on the same skills over and over.

The more you know, and the better you can process that information, the more problems you will be able to overcome and the more people you will be able to sensibly discuss things with.

Extra study makes you extra employable

The idea of home learning is not to take up all your free time. It is to make you more knowledgeable in many areas and therefore more employable when you leave school. It also sharpens your thinking skills.

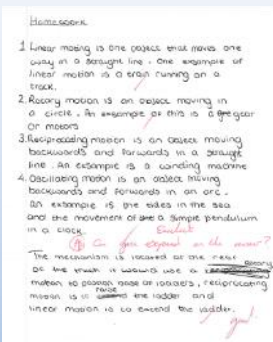
Dangers of skipping home learning

The more you miss completing home learning, the less practice your mind gets at dealing with problems. This means you have more trouble recalling knowledge and remembering what you learn.

Best way to do home learning

The best way to get your home learning done is to have the right attitude. Just realise that you must do it, then get it done as soon as you can. Putting it off doesn't work. You will sometimes run out of time, or something will happen to stop you from getting it done on time.

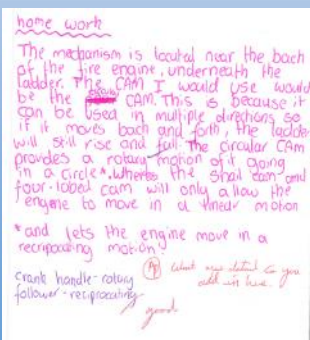
Here at Millfield we celebrate excellence and home-learning is no exception



Congratulations go to students in Design Technology, who have produced outstanding examples of home learning, in which they have focused technical principles with regards to motion and mechanisms.

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.





RECOMMENDED READS

‘The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Drama and Danger’ by J. T. Williams and

‘Fablehouse’ by E. L. Norry

“The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries’

Week A's Library Book of the Week is 'The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Drama and Danger, by J. T. Williams, a thrilling mystery, perfect for fans of Robin Steven's Murder Most Unladylike. It's set in 18th century London and is inspired by real Black British historical figures.

Twelve-year-olds Lizzie Sancho and Dido Belle are from different worlds – Lizzie lives in Westminster in her dad's tea shop, while Belle is an heiress being brought up by her aunt and uncle at grand Kenwood House – but they both share a love of solving mysteries.

And when their eyes meet in the audience of the Drury Lane theatre one night, both girls are sure they've seen something suspicious on stage.

Lizzie and Belle soon find themselves on the trail of a mystery – and becoming best friends. But can they work out what's going on in time to prevent a murder?



‘Fablehouse’

Week B's Library Book of the Week is by E. L. Norry. 'Fablehouse,' is a children's home like no other. It's a safe haven for Heather, sheltering her from a society that won't accept the colour of her skin. But soon that is not the only danger that threatens her!



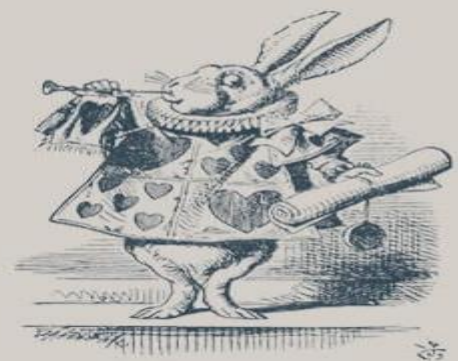
Fablehouse, a mysterious mansion surrounded by ancient woodland, is Heather's new home. Roaming the countryside with some of the other mixed-race kids who are in care there, she finds a stone tower that feels strangely magical. There they meet Palamedes, the Black knight

from King Arthur's court. He warns them that danger lurks in a world beneath their feet.

Heather, Pal and friends set off to rescue children who have been taken to this threatening underworld. No child will be forgotten on their watch. Heather and friends realise they have been specially chosen for this quest. They must use the talents they've been given in the battle to save Fablehouse and all the children who have found shelter there.

AND WHAT IS
THE **USE** OF A **BOOK**,
WITHOUT **PICTURES**
OR **CONVERSATIONS**?

LEWIS CARROLL



eco club



Have yourself a plastic free(ish) Easter

It is that time of year when we celebrate Easter with chocolate eggs, Easter bonnets, and egg painting competitions. Have you ever noticed, however, how much single use plastic there is at this time of the year?

So, what can we do to reduce plastic waste this Easter?

It can be tempting to buy plastic or polystyrene eggs, but they will often end up in land fill eventually, even if we do keep them for sentimental reasons for a few years. Try to avoid buying these and use real eggs instead. There are lots of websites with instructions on how to do this whilst avoiding any nasty smells or broken eggshells. You

can use these for an egg hunting competition instead of plastic ones, but we use the small, foil wrapped chocolate eggs that come in cardboard boxes, and my children hunt for these.



Easter bonnets are another popular craft at this time of year. We try to avoid buying the usual decorations in the shops, and instead use natural materials, such as dried flowers and wool, to make our creations.

Why not get extra creative this year with chocolate too. There are lots of moulds you can buy to make your own chocolate egg, and you can decorate them and fill them with anything you choose. It makes the chocolate much more personal and would be a lovely gift. You can also use moulds to create your own chocolate lollies and small treats, instead of buying the plastic wrapped ones. If you do buy your chocolate eggs, have a look and see if there is any plastic packaging involved. Chocolate companies are getting better, but some still rely on the plastic insert to place their egg in.

The last thing you can do will save you money whilst also reducing plastic. Do you really need that plastic, inflatable bunny? Or the plastic egg tree? Or those foam eggs that, let's be honest, won't last long enough to be used next year. There are lots of wooden and paper crafts you can buy these days, so why not make your own decorations this year, and have some family fun at the same time.

Stay tuned for our forthcoming ECO letter, where we will provide comprehensive updates on our ongoing

This week is **National Careers Week** (from March 4th!), and here at Millfield, we're celebrating with our very own **Millfield Careers Week**, running from **March 4th to 8th**.

Get ready to explore a world of possibilities! Throughout the week, you'll be learning about all the amazing opportunities waiting for you in the working world. **Did you know?** The subjects you choose now can actually open doors to exciting careers later on!

Here's what you can expect:

- **Focussed careers activities:** We'll be integrating careers exploration into your lessons, so you can make the most of this exciting week.
- **The Millfield Careers Convention:** Don't miss out on this amazing event on **Wednesday, March 6th!** This is your chance to meet representatives from a wide range of organizations, including:
 - Fleetwood Town Community Trust
 - Royal Navy
 - Blackpool and Fylde College
 - University of Central Lancashire
 - Blackpool Sixth Form
 - NHSAnd many more!



The convention is a fantastic opportunity to learn about different career paths, explore your options after Millfield, and chat with professionals in various fields. Get ready to be inspired, ask questions, and discover the perfect career fit for YOU!

Please also visit Millfield's website and look at the careers section. A useful website is Career Pilot that will help you navigate a wide variety of career options.

[Careerpilot : Plan your future work & study](#)

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

Eddie Baggaley	7 B1 ERO
Phoebe James	7 B2 ECO
Jack Yates 7	H2 TYE
Henry Ferguson	7 H1 LJO
Harry Smith	7 S1 CCR
Oliver Dempsey	7 R2 EAV



The students have been nominated by Form tutors
for their excellent work in PSHE

Congratulations!

Here's this week's super star students.

Nominated by their teachers for their outstanding work.

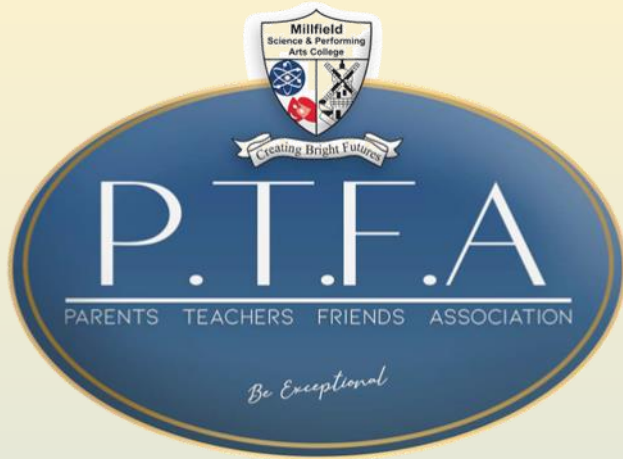


Daffodil Meanings and Symbolism

- * Because it is one of the first flowers to bloom in spring, daffodils are seen as a representation of rebirth and new beginnings. They are strongly associated with Easter because of this reason.
- * Daffodils are traditionally given to someone in a bunch for good luck and happiness; a single daffodil is thought to bring about misfortune.
- * In Wales, legend says that those who see the first daffodil of the season will be blessed with wealth in the coming year. Daffodils are also a traditional symbol of Wales and are often worn with the leek, especially on St. David's Day (March 1), when the flowers often first appear.



Millfield Science and Performing Arts Colleg @Millfieldhighsc • Feb 22 ...
It was fantastic to host this careers event today and welcome colleagues from across the Fylde Coast.
[#TeamMillfield](#)



We are thrilled to announce that we have an

All New PTFA at Millfield!

A number of enthusiastic parents, carers, friends and staff at Millfield attended a meeting on 23rd January 2024 and came up with ideas on how to promote the school and raise funds for resources for our students.

Firstly, we wanted to vote for a new team to lead the PTFA and we are pleased to say that we have now elected a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary to our committee. Secondly, we have agreed on a constitution, and we are excited to get the ball rolling on a few ideas later on in the academic year.

This is what the PTFA is all about

What is the PTFA?

The **PTFA** is a mixture of parents, carers, teachers and friends of the school, who work together for the benefit of Millfield Science & Performing Arts College and its students. The PTFA is dedicated to raising funds to provide resources for our students. The money raised will go towards student trips, transport or equipment to enhance students' learning.

Why should I join?

There is no expectation on any volunteer. Any amount of time you can give to the PTFA will always be well received. There are a variety of ways you can get involved, from attending PTFA meetings, engaging with social media activity, through to volunteering or coordinating events. Even donating preloved items, raffle prizes or suggesting brilliant ideas are ways of getting involved. There seems to be a myth that if you get involved with your PTFA you will never be able to leave! We promise that parents and carers can come to our meetings to just listen and learn, or they can take a more active role if they want to, there are no set expectations.

We look forward to seeing and hearing from you to support our wonderful school and its students.



Petite Boulangerie

Millfield's French Shop will be open on **Wednesday** and **Friday** break time for you to indulge in crepes, pain au chocolats and other baked goods for a small cost

Come and see us next to the Water fountain



Profits will be reinvested into the MFL department and the PTFA.



EUROCLUB



March-Marzo- Mars

Wednesday 6th : FRENCH



I want you to bring me...
- Find and search for items in school from a list in French. (Group activity)

Wednesday 20th :

(Fiesta Semana Santa y Pascual)

Holy Week in Spain:



We Will talk about how Easter is celebrated in Spain.

Wednesday 13th: B I N G O



SPANISH BINGO
Come and join us with Spanish speaking Bingo.
Prizes to win :D

Wednesday 27th :



Kahoot:
Inform yourself about Semana Santa and smash this Kahoot session!

Room: B3 , lunch time, bring your lunch, Miss Arroyo and Kian Forsyth

MILLFIELD SCIENCE & PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE
PRESENTS

IN AID OF THE WINTER GARDENS TRUST

CELEBRATION OF MUSIC 2024

NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS

A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC FEATURING PUPILS FROM
SCHOOLS ACROSS THE FYLDE COAST

OPERA HOUSE

BLACKPOOL

TUESDAY 12TH MARCH 2024

6:30PM - 9:00PM

ADULTS £9.00 CHILD £5.00

BOOK ONLINE - WWW.WGBPL.CO.UK

BOOKING FEES APPLY

VISIT: BOX OFFICE AT THE WINTER GARDENS BLACKPOOL - NO BOOKING FEE.
RESORATION LEVY APPLIES

15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



Creating Bright Futures

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

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.

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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.



Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-56828881> | <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/group-chats/> | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/keeping-children-safe-online-social-media-chat-apps>



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