

Issue No 2
25th September
2026

Important Dates



Millfield MESSENGER

Belvedere Road, Thornton Cleveleys, FY5 5DG

Telephone 01253 865929

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into the autumn term, I continue to spend time visiting lessons every day and it has been a pleasure to see calm, purposeful learning taking place across the school. Students have settled exceptionally well into the routines, expectations and high standards that underpin The Millfield Way. Classrooms are focused, respectful and aspirational, with students working hard and taking pride in their learning.

One of the highlights of my week is always hot chocolate and cake rewards with students on Friday afternoons. It is wonderful to spend time with students, celebrating their achievements and hearing all about their favourite lessons and future ambitions. I am continually impressed by the aspirations of our students and the enthusiasm they show for making the most of the opportunities available to them at Millfield.

Our Performing Arts Department has enjoyed a busy and exciting start to the year. Students recently took part in a dance workshop, developing new skills and building their confidence through performance. We have also held auditions for the forthcoming show at the Tower Ballroom on 10th November, and I have no doubt that our talented performers will continue Millfield's proud tradition of excellence. Further information regarding tickets can be found on our X page.

As part of our wider personal development programme, our Year 7 and Year 8 students recently experienced a powerful theatre-in-education performance focusing on road safety. Through thought-provoking scenarios, students explored the potentially serious consequences of distractions around roads, including mobile phones, headphones and risk-taking behaviours with friends. The performance encouraged students to reflect on the importance of making safe choices and paying full attention when near roads.

We are also incredibly proud of our Duke of Edinburgh students who have successfully completed their Silver Expedition. Throughout the challenge they demonstrated resilience, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving and independence, overcoming obstacles and supporting one another along the way in true Team Millfield style. Experiences such as these help students develop confidence and life skills that will serve them well long after they leave school.

Our Combined Cadet Force (CCF) continues to go from strength to strength through our partnership with Rossall School. Students attend weekly sessions on Thursday afternoons, where they develop leadership, self-discipline, teamwork and practical skills through a variety of challenging activities. It has been wonderful to see our cadets wearing their uniforms with pride on Thursdays in school and embracing the opportunities that the programme provides.

We have also been preparing to celebrate European Day of Languages, recognising the diversity that exists within our school community. We are fortunate to have students who speak a range of languages and come from many different cultural backgrounds. Through activities across the school, we will be celebrating the languages, cultures and traditions that enrich our world.

N. Regan

Mrs N. Regan
Headteacher



1 October
Year 11 History Trip
National Poetry Day
5-9 October
Space Week
8 October
Open Evening
6pm-9pm
Early closure 1.05pm
9 October
School Closed
Inset Day
12-16 October
Biology Week
12 October
Year 11 Interim
Reports Home
12 October
Year 11 Progress
Evening
3.15pm-6.15pm
15 October
Year 11 GCSE
Geography Fieldtrip -
Liverpool
16 October
Spanish Cervantes
Institute -
Manchester
'Show Racism the
Card' Day



Open EVENING

CREATING BRIGHT FUTURES

Be Exceptional



- ✓ MEET OUR HEADTEACHER:
HEADTEACHER TALKS AT 6.30PM
AND 7.30PM
- ✓ MEET OUR STAFF AND STUDENTS
- ✓ EXPLORE OUR FACILITIES
- ✓ LEARN ABOUT OUR CURRICULUM
- ✓ DISCOVER EXTRACURRICULAR
OPPORTUNITIES

*Scan to
find out more*



8th October 2026 6pm-9pm

BELVEDERE ROAD, THORNTON-CLEVELEYS, LANCASHIRE, FY55DG



01253865929



ADMIN@MILLFIELD.LANGS.SCH.UK



@MILLFIELDHIGHSC

A Wonderful Start to the New Academic Year

I hope all our families had a restful and enjoyable summer. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school and see how quickly our students have settled into the Millfield Way, embracing the high expectations set by their teachers.

It has been particularly lovely to see our new Year 7 students settling in so well. They have made a fantastic start, building new friendships, enjoying their learning and engaging enthusiastically in lessons.

One of my favourite parts of my role as Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning is visiting lessons and seeing first-hand what our students are learning. It is a real privilege to see the enthusiasm, curiosity and commitment they bring to their lessons, as well as the excellent work taking place across the school.

Alongside their classroom learning, our students continue to benefit from the many opportunities offered through our hidden curriculum. Trips, clubs, enrichment activities and wider experiences all play an important role in enhancing students' learning, broadening their horizons and supporting their personal development.

We are excited about the year ahead and look forward to seeing our students continue to grow in confidence, develop their knowledge and skills, and achieve their full potential.

As always, if parents or carers have any questions about their child's learning journey at Millfield, please do not hesitate to contact me at h.morton@millfield.lancs.sch.uk.

Here's to another successful and rewarding academic year!

Miss Morton

Assistant Headteacher – Teaching and Learning



In Year 8 English, students explored how writers use protest poetry to challenge injustice and inspire change. Students examined how word choices create a tone - such as anger, sadness or hope - and explain how this communicates the poet's intention and influences the reader.



In Year 9 Art, students are building an introduction page to start off their personal projects based on the themes of festivals around the world.

Congratulations go to students

learning@home

who completed a selection of home learning tasks last term. They responded to a theme of their choosing and then created a visual representation of their ideas regarding the theme. They did an amazing job, tackling thought provoking themes with maturity and creativity.



SCHOOL SYNERGY
Doing the right thing...*Making a difference!*

Remember!

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 timetable 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.

If you require any further information about our home learning or how to register for Synergy, please contact the school.

HOME LEARNING SUPPORT SESSIONS

These sessions are designed to provide extra assistance with homework, revision, and coursework completion, helping students to stay on track and succeed.

After-school sessions are held on
Monday & Tuesday from 2:50 PM to 4:00 PM in Room A28

Additionally, students can access support during lunchtime
at the following locations:

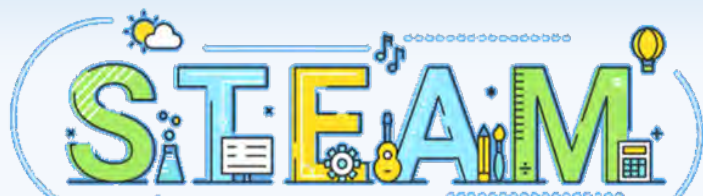
Key Stage 3 students: Room A28

Key Stage 4 revision: Room A14

Coursework progression: Room G9

We encourage all students to take advantage of these opportunities to receive support and guidance to succeed.





@ Millfield

STEAM CLUB STARTS WITH A BANG!

This week, we were delighted to welcome so many new students from across all year groups to our newly rebranded STEAM Club. It was also wonderful to welcome back our experienced STEAM Ambassadors, who will help support activities and inspire other students throughout the year.

The club has been renamed STEAM Club to celebrate the exciting links between Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. Each week, students will have the opportunity to explore these subjects through practical experiments, creative challenges, investigations and longer-term projects.

Our first session certainly started with a splash of colour! Students investigated how different chemicals produce the bright colours seen in fireworks by carrying out flame tests. They observed a range of striking colours and discovered how scientists can use flame tests to identify different metal ions.

Students also explored the pH scale by investigating different acids and alkalis. Their challenge was to carefully mix solutions and use universal indicator to produce as many colours of the pH scale as possible. The laboratory was soon filled with colourful test tubes, ranging from bright reds and oranges to greens, blues and purples.

There was a fantastic atmosphere throughout the session, with students showing curiosity, creativity and excellent teamwork. It was brilliant to see students from different year groups working together, asking questions and sharing their ideas.

STEAM Club runs every Wednesday from 3.00–3.45 pm in B6 and continues throughout the year. The club is open to students from all year groups, and everyone is welcome—whether you enjoy practical science, designing, building, solving problems, being creative or simply trying something new.

Eco Club is also running this year, giving students the opportunity to take part in environmental projects and help make a positive difference within our school community.

We have lots of exciting activities planned and cannot wait to see what our students investigate, design and create next. If you are curious, creative and ready for a challenge, come along and join us!



Science



Technology



Engineering



Art



Mathematics

STEAM learning refers to an educational approach that integrates Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. This interdisciplinary approach aims to foster creativity and critical thinking by allowing students to explore and solve problems across these fields. STEAM education encourages collaboration, innovation, and the development of essential skills such as problem-solving, communication, and design thinking, preparing students for the challenges of the modern world.

Unlock Your Child's Potential: Making Home Learning Work Wonders

As parents, we are our children's first and most enduring educators.

While the school day provides a structured learning environment, the time spent at home offers a valuable extension of that education. Often referred to as homework, now home learning, this period, when approached thoughtfully, can be a powerful tool in solidifying classroom learning and fostering

deeper understanding. In fact, research from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) suggests that well-designed home learning can contribute to an impressive five months or more of additional learning progress over the course of a year. This isn't just about busywork; it's about strategically embedding knowledge into your child's long-term memory.



The key to unlocking this potential lies in understanding how home learning can mirror and complement effective teaching principles. Just as educators carefully plan their lessons, a degree of structure at home can be beneficial. While rigidly adhering to the National Curriculum isn't a requirement for all forms of home learning, whether it's supplementary tasks from school or a more comprehensive approach, the principles of good pedagogy remain the same. This involves planning and organisation: creating a consistent, yet flexible, timetable that allows for focused work, breaks, and a variety of subjects. It also means ensuring your child has the resources they need, from textbooks to online tools, readily available.

The way we approach teaching methods at home is crucial. Just as engaging classroom activities make learning stick, home learning shouldn't be a passive exercise. Encourage interaction through discussions about what they've learned, incorporating real-world examples, or even turning concepts into games. Help them build on prior knowledge by linking new information to what they already understand. Most importantly, provide regular and constructive feedback, celebrating effort and guiding them through challenges. Remember, you have the unique opportunity to tailor your "teaching style" to your child's individual strengths and weaknesses, experimenting with different approaches until you find what truly resonates.

Creating a supportive learning environment is paramount. This means establishing a quiet, organised space free from distractions where your child can focus. Show genuine interest in their work, ask questions, and encourage open communication about their learning journey. Don't hesitate to seek support from school resources, online communities, or other parents – you're not alone in this. Being mindful of your child's individual needs – their learning style, pace, and any specific challenges – will allow you to tailor home learning to be truly effective.

Millfield is dedicated to providing a high-quality education that inspires and empowers our students

- Teacher Magazine: <https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning>

We're proud of the exceptional learning environment we've created at our school. By working together, we can empower our students to become lifelong learners and future leaders.

Navigating Home Learning in the Age of AI: A Parent's Guide to Building Independent Thinkers



As technology rapidly evolves, Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT, Claude, and Gemini have shifted from futuristic concepts to everyday apps on our children's phones and laptops. For young people, these tools offer immediate answers, explanations, and creative ideas. However, their increasing presence raises an important question for parents and educators alike: **How do we ensure AI supports learning rather than shortcuts it?**

Understanding the true purpose of home learning—and recognising the hidden pitfalls of relying on AI—is essential to helping our young people develop into resilient, independent thinkers.

What is Home Learning really for?

It is easy to view home learning as simply a checklist of tasks to be completed before the morning register. In reality, the end product—the completed sheet or essay—is actually the least important part of the process.

The primary value of home learning lies in the **cognitive effort** required to complete it:

- **Retrieval Practice:** Struggling to recall a scientific definition or a historical date strengthens memory pathways in the brain.
- **Problem-Solving:** Working through a difficult math equation or design problem builds critical-thinking skills and resilience.
- **Metacognition:** Learning how to organise thoughts, draft, edit, and correct errors teaches young people *how they learn*.

When a student relies on AI to generate answers or write paragraphs for them, they bypass this mental workout entirely. The task gets checked off, but the actual learning never happens.

The Pitfalls of Over-Relying on AI

While AI tools can generate impressive text in seconds, using them as a substitute for personal effort carries significant drawbacks:

What Does Ethical AI Use Look Like?

We do not expect students to ignore modern technology entirely. Instead, our goal is to help them transition from using AI as a "ghostwriter" to using it as a "study partner".

Ethical & Constructive AI Use (The Study Partner):

- **Explaining Difficult Concepts:** Asking AI to explain a complex topic in simpler terms (e.g., "Explain the process of electrolysis using a basic analogy").
- **Generating Self-Quizzes:** Asking AI to test their knowledge (e.g., "Quiz me on Year 10 Physics equations one question at a time").
- **Checking Work:** Inputting a self-written paragraph and asking, "What technical terms could I add to improve this explanation?"

Unethical & Unhelpful AI Use (The Ghostwriter):

- Copying and pasting home learning prompts directly into AI and copying the output into a workbook.
- Asking AI to write essays, summary notes, or design evaluations from scratch.
- Submitting AI-generated answers without reading, verifying, or understanding them.

How Parents Can Support at Home

You do not need to be an expert in technology or the school curriculum to help your child navigate this landscape. A few simple routines at home can make a significant difference:

1. **Focus on Process Over Completion:** Ask your child, "What was the hardest part of that task?" or "How did you figure that answer out?" rather than simply asking, "Is your home learning finished?"
2. **Encourage "Brain First, Tech Second":** Establish a rule where your child must attempt the work independently using their class notes or revision guides first. AI should only ever be a secondary reference tool.
3. **Spotting the "AI Voice":** If your child presents a piece of work written in overly complex, unfamiliar language, ask them to explain what specific terms mean in their own words.
4. **Normalise Struggling:** Remind your child that feeling stuck is a natural, necessary part of learning. A completed piece of work generated by AI provides zero benefit if the student cannot replicate that knowledge in the classroom.

By working together, we can ensure that modern tools serve to empower our students' minds—not replace them.

Our extensive extracurricular activities offer gives every student the chance to get involved, try something new, discover new interests and make new friends.

millfield.lancs.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Extra-Curricular-Activities-Summer-Term-2026-PR.pdf



Our first Silver Duke of Edinburgh Cohort took part in their Qualifier Expedition from 10-12th September. The students involved have successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award, have completed a Practice Expedition for three days in Rydal and Ambleside in May and have been working hard on their other three sections of the award.

Our Silver Millfield students went to Coniston and Torver in the Lake District where they have shown resilience, teamwork, excellent navigation and camp craft skills and have really shown their kind and hard-working natures. They smashed Duke of Edinburgh Silver, and we are so proud of them! Teamwork makes the dream work!



A big thank you also goes out to Mr. Lyons, Mr. Calland-Storey, Mr. Doxey and Mrs Crook who gave up their time to develop the skills of our wonderful students.

#Youthwithoutlimits



The Millfield CCF Programme 2026-27

The new cohort of students have started the Millfield CCF Programme with Rossall School. We have five Senior Cadets from Year 10, who started at Easter and we now have eight Year 9s, who are a mix of Army and RAF cadets. The 13 students were so excited to join in with the CCF at Rossall on Thursday, telling their teachers how much of a good time they had had. Our staff also love joining in each week. Thank you so much to Mrs Hall, Mr. Jones, Mr. Yeoman and Mrs Ross for giving up their time each week to become CFAVs (Cadet Force Adult Volunteers) and support our students.



WHAT IS THE CCF?

The Combined Cadet Force (CCF) is a national youth organisation sponsored by the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

It aims to “provide a disciplined organisation in a school so that pupils may develop powers of leadership by means of training to promote the qualities of responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness, endurance and perseverance.”

The CCF is not a recruitment organisation for the Armed Forces and there is zero obligation for cadets to join the military.

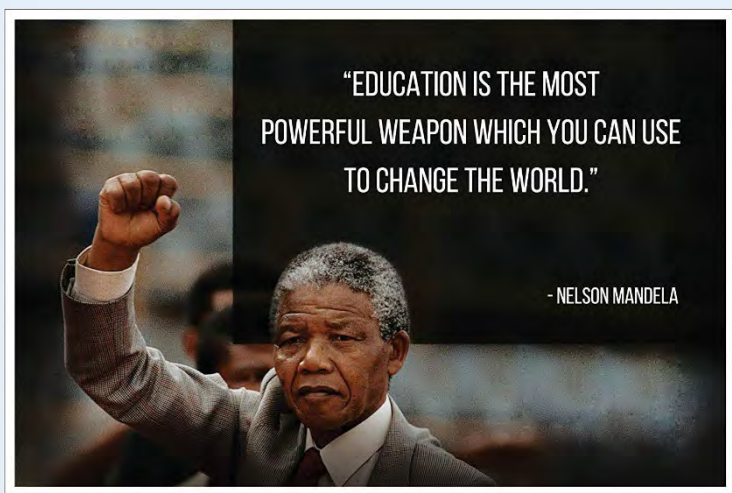
Black History Month 2026 and Show Racism the Red Card

This week, students have been learning about **Black History Month 2026** through assemblies. This year's UK theme, "**Honouring Our Communities**," encourages us to recognise the many people whose everyday efforts help to support, strengthen and inspire communities across the country.

Assemblies explored the contributions of Black Britons, highlighting individuals who have made a positive difference to communities. Students also had the opportunity to learn about important historical events and reflect on how they can help create an inclusive and respectful society for everyone.

As part of our commitment to promoting equality and challenging discrimination, we will also be supporting **Show Racism the Red Card** on **Friday 16 October**. Students are invited to wear **one red item** alongside their normal school uniform, such as a red tie, jumper, socks, scarf or hair accessory, to show their support for the campaign's anti-racism message. A £1 contribution can be made on Parent Pay.

By taking part in Black History Month and Show Racism the Red Card, we hope to encourage all students to celebrate diversity, respect one another and contribute to a community where everyone feels valued and included.



WEAR RED DAY 2026

Be part of our day of action. Wear Red Day - Friday the 16th of October 2026.

[Home](#) | [Show Racism the Red Card](#)

[Black History Month 2026 - Black History Month 2026](#)

B:M2026

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

Grace Wood	8 B3 ADW
Kieran Shelton-Webster	8 B4 GBL
Niamh Birdsall	8 B4 GBL
Isla Bowley	8 B4 GBL
Will Shaw	8 R4 ARD
Sophie Reidy	8 R3 CHY

All of the above students have been nominated by Miss Hall for their excellent work in Maths.

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

David Cooper	7 H1 LJO
Corey Senior	7 B1 ERO
Norah Farnworth	7 H1 LJO
Teddy Mcilwrath	7 R1 MWA
Oscar Palfreyman	7 H2 TYE
Theon Taylor	7 H1 LJO

All of the above students have been nominated by Miss Latham for their excellent work in science.

*We Celebrate
Success!*



We Celebrate Success!

BEARS
EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Huge congratulations to River on this incredible Exceptional Achievement!
 🏆 GB We are incredibly proud of her for representing Team England at the Global Dance Competition in San Sebastián and achieving an amazing 6 Gold and 2 Silver medals. To top it all off, her dance school was named Best Dance School in the World and England won the overall competition! What an outstanding achievement and a fantastic reflection of River's talent, dedication and hard work. Well done, River! We are so proud of you! 🇬🇧 GB 🇬🇧

Globe's Best Dance

LINE SPONSOR
PELO
INSTITUTE
INE
Park

BEARS
Be Exceptional

SHARKS
EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Huge congratulations to Jayden on this incredible Exceptional Achievement! Completing a remarkable 100-mile cycle in around 9½ hours to raise money for his football team is a fantastic demonstration of determination, resilience and selflessness. His continued commitment to challenging himself and supporting his teammates is truly inspiring. We are incredibly proud of Jayden and delighted to recognise this outstanding achievement with a House Point. 🏆 GB 🇬🇧

SHARKS
Be Exceptional

[#TeamMillfield](#) is now the third hardest secondary school to get into in Lancashire (out of around 150 schools):

[Hardest Lancashire secondary schools to get into this year](#)

Applications for Millfield are now open for September 2027:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/starting-secondary-school/>



#TeamMillfield #BeExceptional



It has been another outstanding week with so many House Points being awarded. Rhinos are charging further into the lead. Well done Rhinos!

House Leaderboard			
529	523	577	423
House Points	House Points	House Points	House Points



Millfield's Got Talent is back after last year's huge success!

Can you sing, dance or perform magic? Have you any circus skills or something else completely unique?

Auditions take place on Monday 12th October, 3-4pm.

Register your interest with your Head of House or the Performing Arts Team.



YEAR 9 GRADUATION

Year 9 Students are looking forward to the Graduation Launch assembly on 30th September. In the meantime, form tutors have been going through the Graduation tasks in their new booklets. Some students have done excellent book reviews, which continues to improve their literacy and vocabulary skills. Mrs Crook has spoken about Graduation party day and Graduation evening which will take place in July 2027, and all are very excited.

Let the competition begin!



Eco Club



Eco Club News – September Update

It's been a busy start to the new school year for Eco Club. After the summer break, we have been getting back to work and looking at how our outdoor spaces have changed over the holidays.

Continuing the Bench Project

We are continuing our special project to create a bench in honour of Jacob. Work on the bench will continue this term, including preparing it for its final position and adding the commemorative plaque. We are looking forward to seeing the finished bench become a permanent and meaningful part of our eco garden.

Assessing the Summer Growth

The summer holidays have given our plants plenty of time to grow! Eco Club members have been looking carefully at the changes across our garden and outdoor areas, identifying what has grown well and what areas need some attention. We are assessing which plants have thrived and thinking about what we can do to improve our growing spaces over the coming months.

Tidying Up the Eco Garden

After a long summer, our outdoor spaces needed a little attention. Students have been busy tidying the eco garden, clearing overgrown areas, removing unwanted growth and getting the garden ready for the new term. This will give us a fresh starting point for our autumn projects.

Creating a Herb Garden

We are also starting work on a new herb garden. Students will be involved in preparing the area and planting a range of herbs that can be used for learning, wildlife and future activities. The herb garden will give students the opportunity to see how plants grow and develop while creating another useful and attractive area within our eco garden.

There is plenty more planned for Eco Club this term, and we are looking forward to continuing our work to improve the school grounds, encourage wildlife and make our school a greener place.

STEP INTO SUCCESS:



CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY!

International Walk to School Day is a global event that encourages children, families, and school staff to walk to school instead of travelling by car. It takes place each year in October and is celebrated by millions of people around the world. The event aims to promote

healthy lifestyles, improve road safety awareness, and reduce traffic congestion around schools.

Walking to school offers many benefits. It helps children stay active and supports their physical and mental wellbeing. Regular exercise can improve fitness, concentration, and overall health. Walking also provides an opportunity for children to spend time with friends, enjoy the outdoors, and develop independence as they learn safe road-crossing skills.



Environmental benefits are another important reason for taking part. Fewer car journeys mean lower carbon emissions and reduced air pollution, helping to create cleaner and safer communities. By choosing to walk, families can play a small but meaningful role in protecting the environment.

Schools often celebrate International Walk to School Day with special activities such as walking buses, safety workshops, competitions, and themed assemblies. These events help raise awareness about sustainable travel and encourage long-term habits that benefit both individuals and the planet.

International Walk to School Day reminds us that a simple walk can make a big difference to our health, our communities, and our environment.

[International Walk to School Month](#) There are many resources available to download, such as the Autumn Street Safari Scavenger Hunt!



A JOB FOR OCTOBER! CLEAR THOSE LEAVES!

It's fine to have leaves on borders as the worms will put them into the soil during the winter. However, on paths and hard surfaces, it's best to gather them straight away as they can be very slippery, especially when the weather is wet.

It's also worth clearing leaves off the lawn as they can stop light reaching the turf and cause poor growth and moss. The simplest method of clearing leaves off the lawn is to run over them with a lawn mower. The cutting action of the mower blades will help to shred the leaves and make them quicker to rot down.

Collect leaves this way once a week - any longer and the grass will start to grow long and get harder to cut.

How do you make leaf mould?

Leaf mould is a rich compost made by rotting down leaves. It's useful for adding to potting mixes and as a mulch to improve the soil.

- Shred the leaves by running over them with a lawn mower or by collecting them with a leaf blower vacuum.
- If the leaves aren't moist already, sprinkle them with water.
- Put them in black plastic bags and seal when full.
- Use a garden fork to pierce a few holes in the bags.
- Leave the bags in a quiet corner of the garden.
- Your light, crumbly leaf mould should be ready in 12 months.

And last but certainly not least...before the summer holidays Millfield was awarded silver in the 2026 Young Wyre in Bloom competition!



Young Wyre in Bloom is an annual initiative run by Wyre Borough Council that encourages schools, nurseries, and groups of under-18s to engage in environmentally friendly projects as part of the wider North West In Bloom program. The competition focuses on improving school environments through nature, sustainability, and creative gardening efforts.

Participation and Activities

Participants are judged on three main categories: **floral displays, hard and soft landscaping projects, and environmental quality**. Schools and nurseries often involve the whole school or specific gardening and eco clubs, working on projects throughout the year.

Well done!

YEAR 11 LUNCH TIME EXAM TECHNIQUE

YOU'VE GOT THIS! ♥

PRACTISE ♥ IMPROVE ♥ BUILD CONFIDENCE ♥ DO YOUR BEST

MONDAY

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



TUESDAY

CHILD STUDENTS



 **EXAM STRATEGIES**
 **PRACTICE QUESTIONS**
 **EXPERT SUPPORT**
 **IMPROVE YOUR GRADES**

SAME GOAL... A BRIGHTER FUTURE!

SMALL STEPS BIG RESULTS 😊

PLAN
PRACTISE
PROGRESS
SUCCEED


Millfield School
 Learn • Achieve • Belong

YORK TRIP

HISTORY
GEOGRAPHY
RE

YEAR 7 & YEAR 8

Explore Learn Make Memories

A fantastic opportunity for our students!





Give your child the chance to step back in time and explore the historic city of York!

This exciting 2-day, 1-night trip is packed with history, culture and hands-on learning. It's a fantastic opportunity for students to experience the past, explore the city and make lasting memories with their classmates.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Guided tour and workshop at York Minster
- Visit to Jorvik Viking Centre
- Guided tour of York Castle Museum
- Full board accommodation
- All travel, entrance fees, meals and other services (as detailed in the itinerary)

TRAVEL DATES
Monday 22nd March – Tuesday 23rd March 2027

YEAR GROUPS
Year 7 & Year 8

ACCOMMODATION
YHA York Hostel (Multi-bedded rooms for students and twin rooms for staff)

TRAVEL
Executive coach with local use of the coach within driver's hours regulations

COST
£235 per paying student

Based on a minimum of 35 paying students plus 4 free staff places

PLEASE EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST BY FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER

Discover Challenge Grow


National Children's Orchestras


Lancashire Music Hub

Orchestral Day

Saturday 17th October 2026
 All Hallows Catholic High School, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 0LN

Find out more



Calling 8-14 year old musicians from Lancashire!

Do you play an orchestral instrument at Grade 2-5 level?

Join NCO for a day of free orchestral music making.



Clubs

MINDFULNESS MONDAYS CLUB

Take time for you ♥

Relax Create Connect ♥

A friendly space to unwind, get creative and look after your wellbeing.

Various crafts and mindful activities

Run by our wellbeing ambassadors

CRAFTS INCLUDE...

- Painting
- Drawing
- Collage
- And more!

MINDFUL ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE...

- Breathing exercises
- Colouring
- Journaling
- Quiet time
- Gratitude activities
- And more!

Small steps make a big difference ♥

 Reduce stress
  Boost your mood
  Be creative
  Meet new people
  Feel more positive

Monday lunchtime in F2

Come along, get involved and take a moment for you. ♥

Careers 20 CONVENTION 26

MILLFIELD SCHOOL

community sports college

BAE SYSTEMS

NHS North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Career Atlas
Mapping your future

Westinghouse

victrex

ARMY BE THE BEST

lab creative

BLACKPOOL SIXTH

GREEN SPACE TRANSFORMATIONS
CONNECTIONS TO A BETTER TOMORROW

Myerscough College & University Centre
INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

ROYAL NAVY

ROYAL AIR FORCE

FLEETWOOD NAUTICAL CAMPUS

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

4TH NOVEMBER
IN SPORTS HALL

Be Exceptional

ECO CLUB

Small changes. A healthier planet.

WHEN?
Wednesday

TIME?
2.50 – 3.40

ROOM?
C4

Get involved in making a greener future!

- Eco projects
- School initiatives
- Make a difference
- Meet like-minded people

Real change starts with **YOU!**

ALL WELCOME

Dance Festival Auditions

Monday 21st September

3–4pm

Theatre

There is no need to prepare anything for the audition – students just need to bring their PE kit.

#TeamMillfield

#BeExceptional

Clubs

WYRE & FYLDE
PE & School Sport Network
PRESENTS.....

DANCE FESTIVAL 2026

"When I grow up..."

TO TAKE PLACE AT
BLACKPOOL TOWER BALLROOM

TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER | **6:30 PM – 9:30 PM**

Inspiring today's dancers... tomorrow's futures

DREAM IT. DANCE IT. BE IT.



Celebrating European Day of Languages



*We Celebrate
Success!*

Here are this week's star students, nominated by their teachers for their outstanding commitment to The Millfield Way.



RECOMMENDED READS

“Street Child”

Week A’s Library Book of the Week is “Street Child” by Berlie Doherty.

The unforgettable tale of an orphan in Victorian London, based on the boy whose plight inspired Dr Barnardo to found his famous children’s homes.



When his mother dies, Jim Jarvis is left all alone in London. He is sent to the workhouse but quickly escapes, choosing a hard life on the streets of the city over the confines of the workhouse walls.

Struggling to survive, Jim finally finds some friends... only to be snatched away and made to work for the remorselessly cruel Grimy Nick, constantly guarded by his vicious dog, Snipe.

Will Jim ever manage to be free?

Note from the author: Street Child is my bestselling novel based on the story of Jim Jarvis, who alerted Dr Barnardo to the plight of destitute children in Victorian London. After escaping from a workhouse, his adventures and hardships finally led him to attend a Ragged School, where Barnardo asked him for his story.

Although Street Child has never won any awards and hasn’t been made into a movie, it’s my most popular book ever, and I’m very proud of that!

*This book is suitable for ages 9 -10 years.
Book one in a series of two.*

“The Midnight Library”

Week B’s Library Book of the Week is “The Midnight Library” by Matt Haig.

Between life and death there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. To see how things would be if you had made other choices . . . Would you have done anything different, if you had the chance to undo your regrets?”



A dazzling novel about all the choices that go into a life well lived, from the internationally bestselling author of *Reasons to Stay Alive* and *How To Stop Time*.

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. While we all wonder how our lives might have been, what if you had the chance to go to the library and see for yourself? Would any of these other lives truly be better?

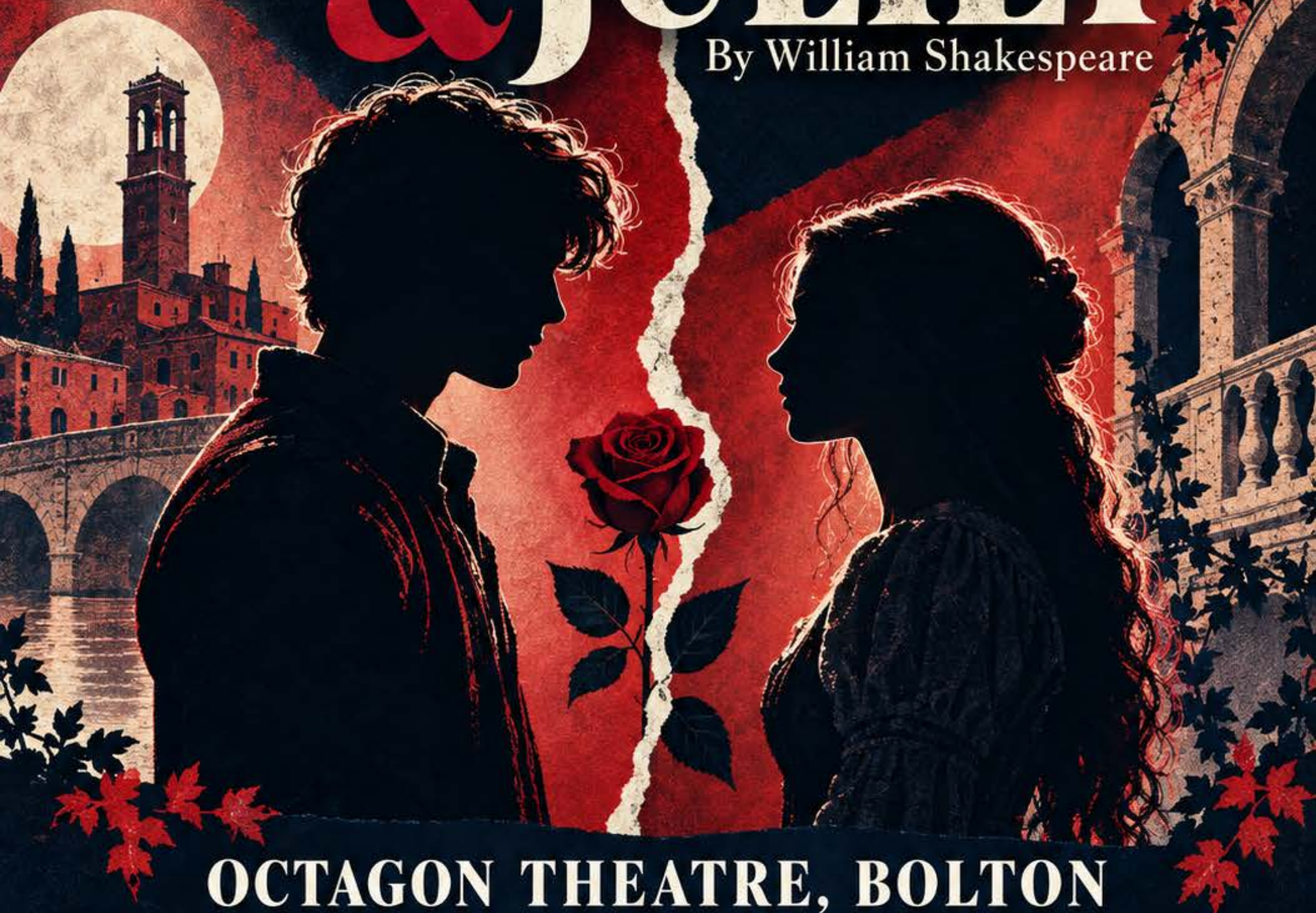
A person was like a city. You couldn't let a few less desirable parts put you off the whole. There may be bits you don't like, a few dodgy side streets and suburbs, but the good stuff makes it worthwhile.

*This book is suitable for ages 13 years and over.
Book one in a series of two.*

YEAR 10 THEATRE TRIP

ROMEO & JULIET

By William Shakespeare



OCTAGON THEATRE, BOLTON

WEDNESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2027

10:15am performance

Experience Shakespeare live on stage



MILLFIELD SCHOOL

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS 2026-2027

AUTUMN TERM 2026

14/09/26	Illumin8 Dance Workshop
17/09/2026	LCC Car Safety – Theatre in Education Performance
08/10/2026	Open Evening
10/11/2026	Wyre & Fylde Dance Festival
11/11/2026	St Johns Concert
18/11/2026	Certificate Evening
26/11/2026	Millfield's Got Talent
30/11/26	Thornton Lights Switch On
04/12/2026	Poulton Lights Switch On
14–16 /12/ 2026	Carol Service – Thornton Methodist Church

SPRING TERM 2027

08/02/2027	Wyre and Fylde Dance Competition
10–11/02/2027	School Musical
09/02/2027	Primary – Musical Matinee
23/02/2027	National Youth Orchestra - Blackpool Tower
01/03/2027	Celebration of Music

SUMMER TERM 2027

19–20/05/2027	Music and PA Trip
05/06/2027	Poulton Gala
12/06/2027	Thornton Gala (TBC)
29/06/2027	Presentation Evening
07/07/2027	Summer Sounds Music Concert

Be Exceptional

WHAT IS... SOCIAL CAMOUFLAGE



WHAT IS IT?

Social camouflage is when an autistic child consciously or unconsciously hides their natural autistic traits to fit in with those around them.

This often involves observing others, copying facial expressions, gestures, conversation styles, or social behaviours to appear more like their peers.

Although anyone can camouflage, it is particularly common in autistic girls, which is one reason many are overlooked or diagnosed later.

Camouflaging may help a child appear to cope socially, but it does not reduce the effort their brain is using to get through everyday interactions.

WHAT IT CAN LOOK LIKE

A child may carefully watch what other children do before joining in, rehearse conversations, force themselves to make eye contact, laugh when others laugh, or copy another child's interests, language, or mannerisms. They may appear sociable at school but become exhausted, withdrawn, or overwhelmed once they get home. Teachers may see a child who is coping well, while parents witness emotional outbursts, shutdowns, or extreme fatigue.

The child is often hiding how difficult social situations really feel.

WHY IT HAPPENS

Many autistic children camouflage because they have realised they are "different" and want to avoid standing out.

They may fear being excluded, teased, misunderstood, or judged, so they work incredibly hard to meet the expectations of those around them.

This constant monitoring and self-correction requires enormous mental energy. Over time, social camouflage can contribute to anxiety, low self-esteem, emotional exhaustion, and autistic burnout, while also making it more difficult for others to recognise that support is needed.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

A child who appears to be coping may actually be working far harder than anyone realises.

Looking beyond outward behaviour helps us understand the hidden effort involved in everyday social interactions.

Recognising social camouflage can lead to earlier identification, better support, and environments where children feel safe enough to be themselves rather than constantly performing for others. The goal should never be to help autistic children hide who they are, but to create spaces where they no longer feel they have to.