

The Year 12 Drama class would like to personally thank Mayfield's lovely librarian Mrs Glucksberg for taking time out of her day to come and talk to us. As she grew up in Milan, she had the honour of meeting the great playwright Dario Fo, who wrote the play 'Accidental Death of an Anarchist', which we are studying. She gave us excellent insight into the play's context and telling us interesting stories and anecdotes from both her own experiences and from the history of Italy. We are very grateful for the opportunity to speak to her and are now excited to keep studying the play. *(Ellen, Sophie, Amelia)*



Year 10 spent the 5th December experiencing a place of work with a Parent/Carer for 'Take your daughter to work day'. The girls enjoyed placements in a range of different job sectors; from Law to Healthcare to Science research, Education and Construction and Engineering to name just a few. Those girls who were not able to participate in in-person work experience, were able to complete a Reed virtual work experience placement for the day. Feedback so far has been very positive and it should really help the girls with considering the range of job areas that might be available to them in the future, as well as ideas for the week of work experience that they will be doing in Year 11.

On Tuesday evening the Music department held MGS's first Christmas Concert for three years and it was a delightful evening of entertainment. All of our extra-curricular clubs performed the music they have been working on to a packed audience and the atmosphere was brilliant. Well done to everyone who took part and we look forward to the Spring Concert.

Matilda O in Year 11 has achieved a distinction in her Grade 8 singing exam: Grade 8 is the highest grade achievable before progressing to diploma exams. Well done!



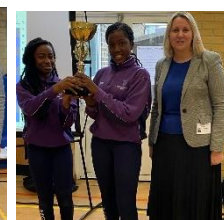
Year 11, 12 and 13 Photographers attended a trip to the Taylor Wessling Photographic Portrait Prize 2022 to gain insight into the work of contemporary photographers, who visualise many aspects of identity and the human condition, as well as social and political issues. Students gained knowledge on the formal elements of professional photography as well as enhancing their critical, contextual knowledge and analysis for their GCSE and



A level coursework. We then visited the Photographic room at the V&A to look at some darkroom photography and a large collection of traditional cameras.

Our 1st & 3rd Netball teams in Year 7 played at Cobham Hall. The 1st team won 20-0 and 3rd team lost 6-0 in a well contested game. The 2nd and 4th team played Wilmington Grammar, the 2nd team drew 3-3 and the 4th team lost 5-3. Congratulations to all our year 7 pupils for their continued dedication to training and skill enhancement which was evident in the matches played.

On Wednesday 7th we were delighted to host our annual Christmas Regatta in which all pupils across Years 7-9 participated for their House. Students were placed in teams rowing in 12 minute races, where four rowing machines formed a boat with each group completing the race as a relay. Great teamwork was demonstrated by all participants who generated a fun and competitive atmosphere which was enjoyed by all. Congratulations to all the participants and a huge well done to each of the winning houses who were presented with their trophies by Mrs Wilson. Winners were: Year 7 – Reekie; Year 8 – Penfold; Year 9 – Chadwick.



Students and staff of Mayfield completed a 24 hour row from 8th to 9th December to raise money for the charity Women In Sport, a charity chosen by our participating students. The charity works hard to give all women more opportunities to participate in physical activity across the country. We are also raising money for a set of Rowing oars for Mayfield's Rowing boat. This will allow us to get more students rowing on the water. Any donation is greatly appreciated! To donate click here:



https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/mgsg24row?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=one_page&utm_content=campaign/mgsg24row&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=0f8d611a307b42168e3bbb1f0e4de76f or scan the QR code.

Finally, we wish you all a very happy, safe and enjoyable Christmas break.

Looking forward

Monday 12th December

Year 10 Assembly in the Hall (MZR/JMT)

Tuesday 13th December

Year 11-13 Exam Briefing in the Hall, 8.35

Lower School Carol Service, p5

Wednesday 14th December

Year 13 Assembly in the Hall (CWN/BST)

Christmas Lunch for Years 10-13

Presentation Afternoon, 2.55pm

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Thursday 15th December

Christmas Lunch for Years 7-9

Carols with the Staff Band, Main Hall, lunchtime

Friday 16th December

Pantomime rehearsal

Monday 19th December

School Pantomime

Tuesday 20th December

Headteacher's Christmas Address in tutor time

P1&2 normal, followed by Christmas Quiz at 11.20

Students dismissed by Learning Leaders from 12.45

End of Term 2

Tuesday 3rd January

Development Day – school closed

Wednesday 4th January

Term 3 begins

Thursday 5th – Thursday 19th January

Year 11+13 mock exams

Assembly theme

This week's Assembly theme: Christmas

Assemblies should reflect the true meaning of Christmas and not the commercial side.

Hannukah: (18th – 26th December)

The Jewish Festival of Lights, marking the restoration of the temple by the Maccabees in 164BC.

Our School Environment

Please ensure all areas of school are left litter free.

Litter duty: 8A Please collect the litter picks and black sacks from Mrs Kemp's office and report to your Learning Leader at the end of lunchtime.

Water: Please use the water stations around the school at break and lunchtime and remember to bring a bottle each day to minimise use of single use plastic bottles.

MGS Reader's Corner

Thank you to all students who took part in last week's book swap event; it was a great success and it was wonderful to see so many of you taking part. We enjoyed hearing your discussions about books and you all created a real buzz about reading which was lovely to see. We hope you will enjoy reading your new books (and using your bookmarks!) Given the success of our festive swap we intend to run a similar event next year, so watch this space!

We must give a special mention to our Year 10 helpers, who did the most fantastic job of taking tokens and talking to you all; we were very grateful for their assistance on the day. We would also like to thank Mrs Khatkar for her support with this event, to the canteen staff who kindly let us use the space in the orangery and to Ms Sayers who provided a suitably festive playlist to accompany us. Many thanks to all!



NHS Christmas Careers Challenge

Win a £50 Amazon voucher and a live Q&A for your school with NHS ambassadors by taking part in the NHS Christmas Careers Challenge between 10th Dec 2022 – 10th Jan 2023

[sign up to the NHS Careers Christmas Challenge!](#) Year 7-11 pupils can find out about diverse careers through the learning modules and by asking questions of NHS ambassadors/mentors.

These have been designed to be bite-sized but will be helpful to any pupils who are interested in careers within the NHS.

To complete the Christmas Challenge pupils complete the following:

1. Sign up to <https://hee.connectr.co.uk/hee/>
2. Complete 2 tasks
3. Send a message to a mentor/ambassador

The schools with the most pupils completing the challenge will win an Amazon voucher worth £50 and connect with our NHS ambassadors for a live session about careers in the NHS.

Reminders and Notices

Lost Property: Please remember to check lost property bins for any items you are missing. It will also be laid out in the Orangery area before the end of term.

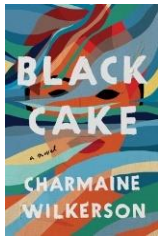
Canteen News: Buy your Christmas Dinner Ticket between 5th -12th December from the canteen. Price £3.40. Free school dinner pupils, please come and collect your ticket on the day of your dinner between 8-8.30am. See attached poster for the menu. Please help us reduce waste by buying your ticket in advance, we cannot guarantee a dinner if you have not brought a ticket. For those not having Christmas dinner, the pasta bar, salad bar and sandwiches will be available from 1.50pm

Breakfast Meal Deal is served in the Canteen between 8-8.20am: Bowl of Cereal, Hot Chocolate, Fruit - £1.70.

Happy Christmas

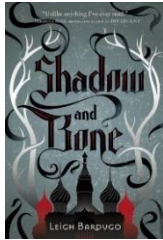
HAPPY Hanukkah

Top 5 Recommended Reads for Christmas



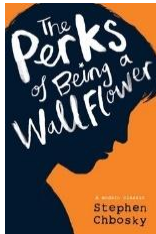
Black Cake by [Charmaine Wilkerson](#) (2022)

Charmaine Wilkerson’s debut novel is a story of how the inheritance of betrayals, secrets, memories, and even names can shape relationships and history. Deeply evocative and beautifully written, Black Cake is an extraordinary journey through the life of a family changed forever by the choices of its matriarch.



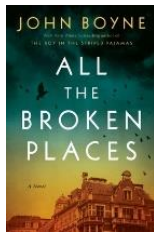
Shadow and Bone by [Leigh Bardugo](#) (2012)

Surrounded by enemies, the once-great nation of Ravka has been torn in two by the Shadow Fold, a swath of near impenetrable darkness crawling with monsters who feast on human flesh. Now its fate may rest on the shoulders of one lonely refugee. If you enjoy this then there is so much more by the same author: the Shadow and Bone trilogy, the Six of Crows duology, the King of Scars duology.



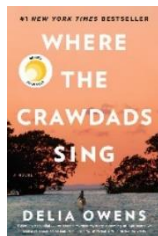
The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky (1999)

This is the story of what it's like to grow up in high school. More intimate than a diary, Charlie's letters are singular and unique, hilarious and devastating. Chbosky champions and celebrates inclusivity and tolerance by showing both how people can blossom when they are accepted for who they are and how painful life can be for people who are ignored or mistreated.



All the Broken Places by John Boyne (2022)

Recommended for Year 10 and above. A devastating, beautiful story about a woman who must confront the sins of her own terrible past, and a present in which it is never too late for bravery. Sequel to *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, the narrative voice is the older Gretel.



Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens (2018)

Atmospheric and tumultuous, Owens’ writing is dreamy. She creates a sublime narrative which tells the story of an isolated girl surviving on the fringes of society in North Carolina during the 1950s and 1960s. Against the backdrop of racial and social strife, the narrative follows Kya, viciously pegged the “Marsh girl” by the narrow minds of townsfolk. Disclaimer: the film of this novel is not worthy 😊