

Prep School Newsletter

Spring Term 2025

As we reach the end of what has, at times, been a cold and rather grisly term, it is a pleasure to reflect on just how much warmth, energy and positivity has filled our Prep School. Step through our doors on any given day and you will find not the chill of the season, but a vibrant sense of purpose, enthusiasm, togetherness and smiles. This middle term of the year is always busy, but I now look back on a term that has been a term full of endeavour, achievement and, above all, community spirit.

The pages of this newsletter offer a snapshot—a highlights reel—of some of what has been taking place. They capture many wonderful moments, though they can only ever tell part of the story. Behind each photograph and report lies a wealth of effort, hard work, curiosity and determination from our pupils and our teachers and school staff.

One particularly memorable highlight has been our production of *Shrek Jr.* More than just a performance, it was a celebration of collaboration across the whole school. From those on stage to those working behind the scenes, it embodied the very best of teamwork, creativity and resilience - especially as most of the preparation and rehearsals took place in everyone's free time. It is occasions like this that remind us how special it is to belong to such a dynamic, widespread and supportive team.

Looking ahead to next term, there is still so much to be excited about. With the promise of sunnier days, summer uniform and a calendar full of opportunity, next term already holds great anticipation and excitement for us all. Our pupils will be representing the school in five international sporting tournaments (swimming, table tennis, golf, athletics and tennis), engaging in an international online debate, and taking part in many Inter school sporting activities in the Madrid area. Residential trips for every year group will offer further chances for independence and adventure, alongside the continued focus on strong academic learning in the classroom. And, of course, we have the much loved Summer Fair - a coming together in celebration of all things Runnymede.

There is, without doubt, a very special "vibe" in the Prep School at present—one characterised by encouragement, a willingness to roll up sleeves and embrace challenges, and a shared commitment to making this the very best place for children to grow, learn and thrive. It is something I am immensely proud of, and something we all are delighted to share with you in these pages.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I wish you and your families a restful Easter break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term ahead on Monday 13th April - wearing summer uniform!

Inter-school Cricket Competition

Strong and Competitive

Over the past few weeks, our Year 5 and 6 pupils have had an exciting introduction to cricket through two lunchtime taster sessions. A total of 48 children attended, the majority of whom were experiencing the sport for the very first time. It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm, energy, and willingness to learn from all participants. During the sessions, pupils developed basic skills such as batting, bowling and fielding, while also learning about teamwork and game rules. Following the taster sessions, two teams were selected to represent the school in an inter-school cricket competition. The teams included both boys and girls from Year 5. Throughout the competition, the children demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and represented the school with pride. They showed determination, resilience and a growing confidence in their abilities. The teams performed well against strong opposition and continued to improve with each game. Most importantly, the pupils had a great time, supporting one another and celebrating their achievements. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn new skills, build friendships and enjoy being active.

| **Simon Cook** Year 5 Form Tutor



Girls' Cricket Team



Boys' Cricket Team

Trip to Fundación Juegoterapia

Supporting Important Causes

In early March, 6M were lucky to be invited to visit Juegoterapia, a charity which supports children undergoing treatment for cancer providing play therapy. We visited their amazing space in Barrio Salamanca, found out all about the charity's amazing work, and then took part in four fun activities which gave us an idea of the therapies provided for children during their difficult treatment. It was a very informative and fun way to spend the morning. The activities included were arts & craft, interactive games with the Foundation staff, watching videos in an infinity room, and safe videos for children to play with their friends. A huge thank you to all at Juegoterapia for making us so welcome!

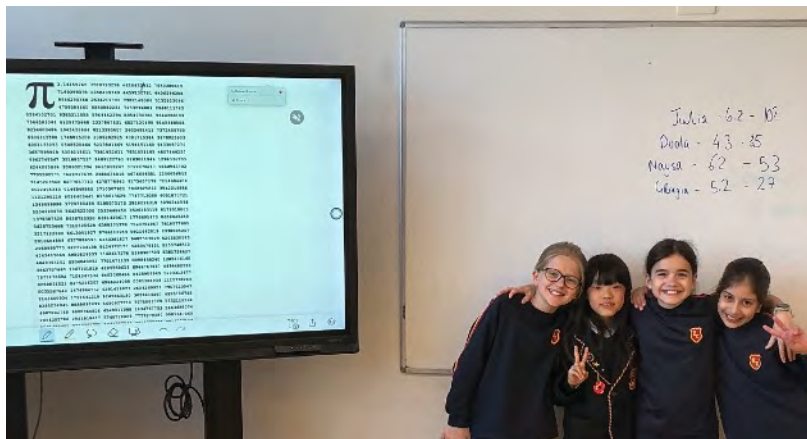
| **Andrew Moore** Head of Prep English



Celebrating Pi Day with creativity and curiosity

We had a fantastic time celebrating Pi Day at the Prep School with a variety of exciting activities. One of the highlights of the day was our Pi recital, where pupils challenged themselves to memorise the digits of π . The winner, Julia, recited a total of 102 digits! During Maths lessons, teachers incorporated Pi-themed activities, giving pupils the opportunity to explore the concept in fun and engaging ways. The real highlight of the day, however, was the Pi Day dingbats, which were completed individually and saw a huge amount of participation and enthusiasm from pupils across the school. Students enjoyed the challenge of solving the puzzles on their own, creating a focused yet exciting atmosphere. It was wonderful to see such energy and engagement with Mathematics. Overall, the day was a great success and a memorable way to celebrate Pi.

| **Rachel Fahy** Head of Prep Maths



Literacy Week

Celebrating the joy of reading and the power of words

During this week, we were celebrating all aspects of literacy: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Each class visited a Pre-Prep class to support the younger children with their reading. A range of games and activities took place throughout the week in classes, from talking games to book scavenger hunts, to develop literacy skills and to share book recommendations. Throughout the week, all classes read the amazing book 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman, and then produced some writing in response to the book, from persuasive speeches trying to persuade characters to make a wise choice, to stories building tension before reaching often quite tragic and gory climaxes. Some of this work was shared in an assembly and is being displayed around the school for others to enjoy. The week culminated in a dress-up day for World Book Day on Friday, when some incredible book character outfits were on display!



Extreme Book Review Competition

In preparation for World Book Day, we asked students to promote a book that they have recently enjoyed to their classmates in an original and creative way. We were bowled over by the variety and creativity of the entries, which included hanging models, posters, interviews, adverts and short films. Well done to everyone who entered. A list of the winners of the competition:

Year 4: Laura and Martina

Year 5: Amelia and Inés

Year 6: Aida and Alejandro

Year 7: Antonio

Year 8: Michelle

Team entry award:

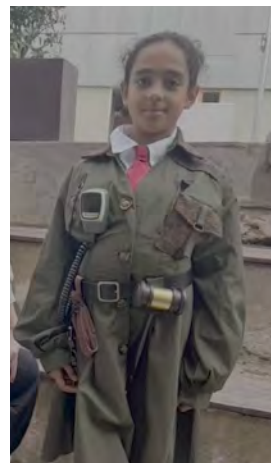
Selene, Sara, Georgina, Laura, Aitana



Literacy Week

Every day should be World Book Day!

Some more photos of the amazing costumes and outfits the pupils (and teachers!) had put together for World Book Day - a chance for them to come dressed up as their favourite characters from their favourite books.



Literacy Week

Mini-Saga Writing Competition.

To coincide with Literacy Week, we challenged students to write a mini-saga, telling a story in fewer than 150 words. There was a flood of imaginative entries from each year group, which were posted up around the school. Pupils were encouraged to vote for their favourite story, and together with the decisions of a panel of judges, the following winners were selected:

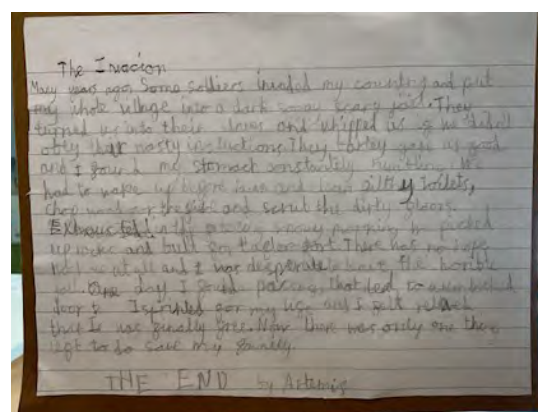
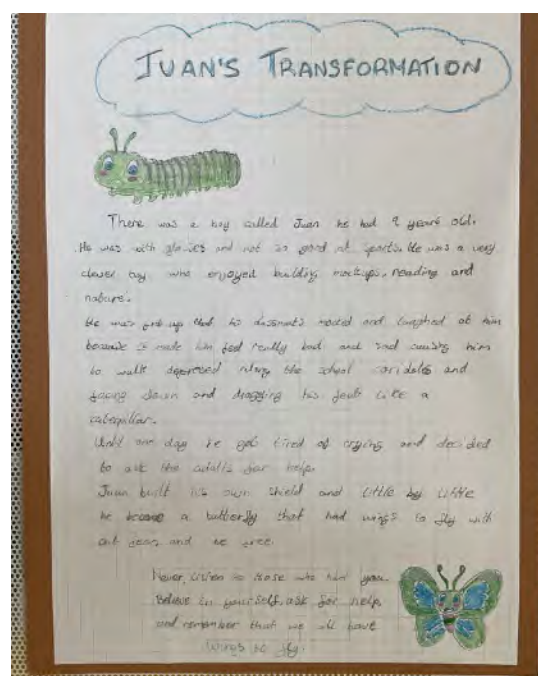
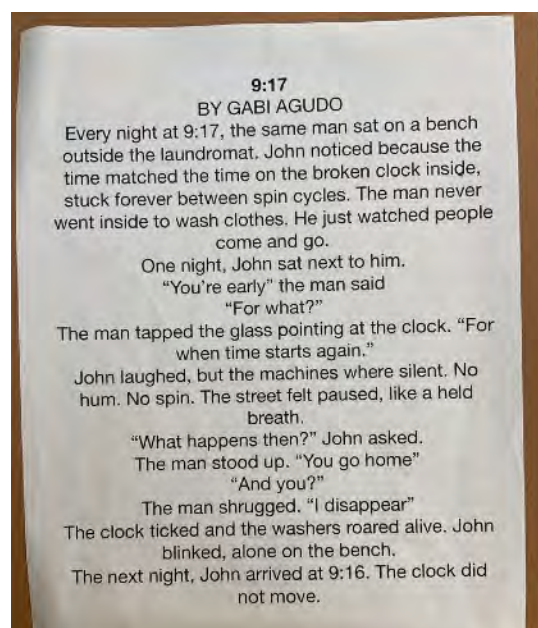
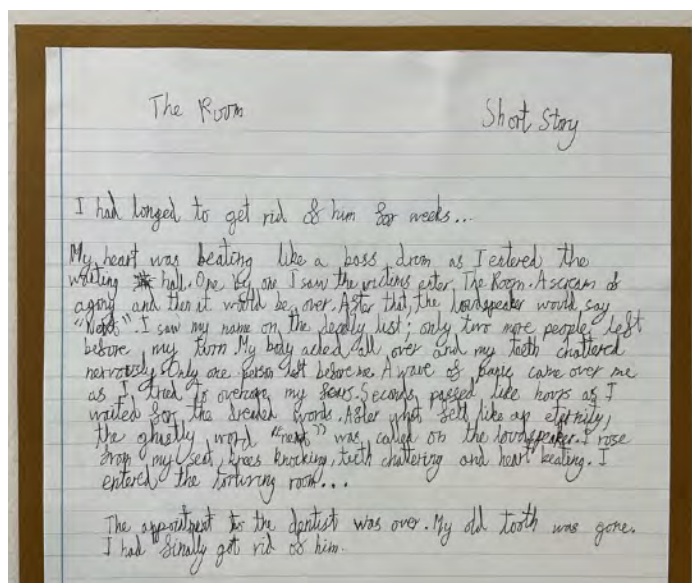
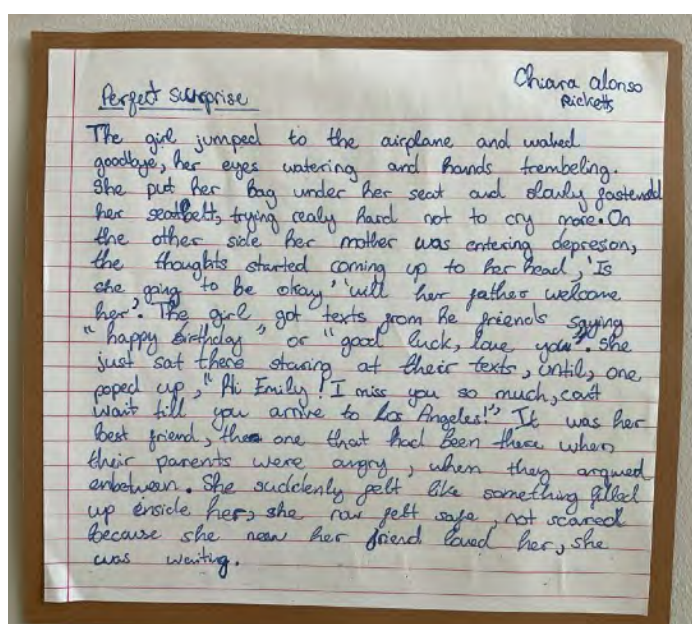
Year 4: Winner - Artemis, Runner-up - Elsa Pons

Year 5: Winner - Lucas, Runner-up - Nicole

Year 6: Winner - Odysseas, Runner-up - Noah

Year 7: Winner -Chiara, Runner-up - Olivia Cancio

Year 8: Winner - Gabriela Agudo Runner-up - Ariadna



A huge well done to all of those who entered for entertaining us with your short tales!

Andrew Moore Head of Prep English

Snow day at Runnymede!

A snow-filled Runnymede!

Quite an unusual excitement was an unforeseen snow day this term. It was the first time for me to see snow at Runnymede, and the new football pitch became a battle zone for snowball fights. Teachers on duty risked their lives ducking and dodging the errant snowballs (or, perhaps they weren't errant?!), while nurse Maria was inundated with Prep School children requesting dry socks and shoes! For some, it was a special day. For grumpy Prep School Headmasters, it was perhaps not so special - but still rather fun!

| **Duncan Bailey** Prep School Headmaster



Snow at school is really unusual and Ms Llor let us go out during our English lesson to experience it! Later on, Mr Bailey announced the whole Prep School could go out which was exhilarating. Snowball fights, snow men and snow angels filled the playground along with squeals and very wet feet. This meant that we had to come into class and dry our feet off - thanks goodness for our fan heater!

| **Year 6.2 Class**

Commended Pupil Trips

A fun time Bowling together!

Hello, my name is Sol and I love bowling. This term I got the opportunity to go bowling. First, we walked to Diversia, which we had all to ourselves and then we started bowling. I went first. I got the ball in my hands ready to bowl and.... I got a strike! Later on, my friend got a strike. I was so shocked and so happy that I started jumping. I like bowling not only to bowl but also I like bowling because I can be happy not only when I score points but also when other people score points. Finally, I would like to say thank you for the people who organised it.

| **Sol** Year 5 Commended Pupil



Last week, our school had a school trip to play bowling. We all walked to Diversia together. This was fun, as we could talk and enjoy our journey with our friends. After arriving at the bowling alley, we were divided into our year groups. Then, the competition began! We played two rounds of bowling. All of us did our level best to get as many points as possible. There was a lot of excitement and competition between us; some people got strikes, but others just enjoyed playing and having a great time. This was a great experience! We had fun, spent time with our friends, and enjoyed a different type of school activity. From my opinion I think this should be repeated every single year since it was a great experience and next year it will help children concentrate better to earn more house points to go to this lovely trip.

| **Martina and Pablo** Year 8 Commended Pupils

Valentine's Day



Love is in the air!

The Prep School and DMB's office came to a standstill as Valentine's Day approached. We certainly bought into it as Senior School cupids organised delivery of flowers and chocolates to many lucky recipients - all in aid of CRIS Cancer. We raised in excess of €650 for this very worthy cause.

| **Duncan Bailey** Prep School Headmaster

The Townsend-Warner History Prize



An exciting History Competition

This term has been very exciting for the History department in the Prep School with forty children eagerly arriving on the first Friday of the term in January to enter themselves into the Townsend-Warner History Prize. The Townsend-Warner History Prize is an annual competition started 140 years ago in the UK to encourage the study of history. Rather appropriately it is one of the oldest institutions in the preparatory school world. The prize aims to 'provoke interest, and delight in historical reading, facts and analysis'. Over 1,000 children participate each year, with previous winners including Eric Blair (George Orwell), Cyril Connolly and the UK politician Kwasi Kwarteng. This year was the first year Runnymede entered and it was very pleasing to see the preparation and excitement from the forty pupils who completed Paper 1, as well as their fervent conversations afterwards about the answers, one pupil gushed, 'I just love history'. The first half-term ended with as much excitement as we learnt that Jaime in Year 8 had achieved the rather impressive score of 63/100, meaning he would be the first pupil in a Spanish Prep School to qualify for Paper 2. On his first day back after the February break, at the start of exams week, Jaime sat, very cool, calm and composed in Mr Bailey's office for two hours, writing four essays, to complete the rather tricky Paper 2. It is with great delight we can share that out of 250 candidates who qualified for Paper 2 Jaime came 59th, placing him in the top 100 who receive a special card of commendation recognising their achievement. Jaime was the only child to enter the paper from a school outside of the UK.

Congratulations to Jaime, and no pressure to the upcoming Year 6s and 7s who will enter next academic year!

| **Jessica Papworth** Head of Prep History



Year 5 Spanish Class

Este trimestre los alumnos de Spanish han trabajado con mucho esfuerzo y creatividad durante este trimestre, realizando diversos proyectos relacionados con los temas y lecturas que hemos abordado en clase. Uno de sus trabajos favoritos ha sido la creación de un acuario, a través del cual hemos trabajado la descripción de animales. Los alumnos tuvieron que crear su propia especie y explicar cómo es, así como sus características principales. Han sido muy creativos e inventaron especies muy interesantes. ¡El resultado ha sido precioso! Además, también han disfrutado mucho con los juegos para repasar el vocabulario nuevo. Se lo han pasado muy bien y, además, les han resultado muy útiles para seguir aprendiendo.

| **Maite Arandilla** Head of Prep Spanish



Este trimestre hemos hecho un acuario con peces que nos gustan. Todos han hecho una especie que es única. ¡Hemos usado muchos colores y yo creo que destacan muchísimo y hemos trabajado muy bien! También fue muy divertido.

| **Navy** Year 5 Pupil

A nosotras nos gusta jugar a muchos juegos en nuestra clase de español. Por ejemplo, hemos jugado a juegos de bingo de palabras y juegos de memoria. Estos juegos nos hacen aprender y también son muy divertidos.

| **Beatrice** Year 5 Pupil



Ukulele Club

Strumming together and having fun!

This term, our Year 5 pupils have made a fantastic start on the ukulele, building their confidence with basic chords, rhythm patterns, and ensemble playing. It has been wonderful to see how quickly they have progressed, with many now able to accompany simple songs independently. Meanwhile, our Year 6 pupils have taken their skills to the next level, focusing on more advanced techniques and developing their performance skills. They have worked particularly hard on their tempo, timing, and playing together as a cohesive group. From classics by The Beatles to more contemporary hits by Bruno Mars, pupils across both year groups have enjoyed exploring a wide range of musical styles. This variety has helped to keep lessons engaging while also broadening their musical understanding. It has been especially rewarding to see students grow in confidence when performing in front of their peers.

Looking ahead, I am pleased to share that after the Easter break, we will be restarting our ukulele club. This will provide an excellent opportunity for pupils to continue developing their skills in amore informal setting. Members of the club will also have the chance to perform at the summer fair, as well as take part in a visit to a local care home, offering a wonderful opportunity to share their music with the wider community. I very much look forward to seeing even more pupils getting involved and enjoying making music together after the holidays.

| **Oscar Quinn** Head of Prep Music

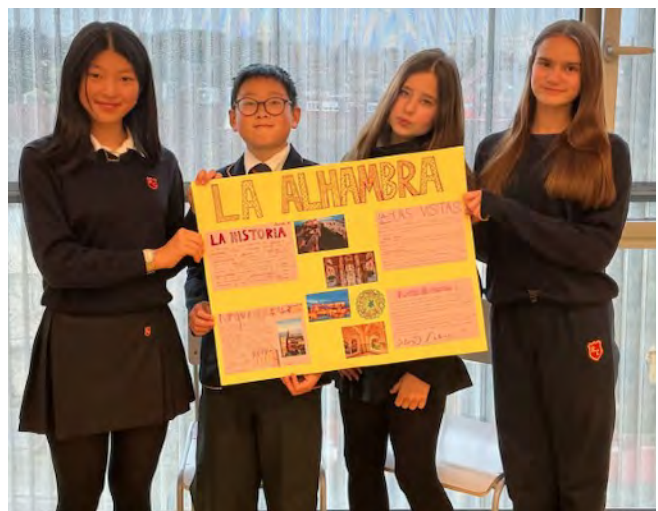


Year 8 Spanish Class

La Alhambra

Este trimestre, hemos hecho un trabajo muy divertido: un póster de La Alhambra. La Alhambra es un sitio histórico de Granada y con mucha historia: las mezquitas musulmanas y la cultura vibrante nos han inspirado durante el proceso de creación. Con el libro de Manuela Jones que hemos leído y la investigación de los aspectos más importantes de La Alhambra, hemos creado un póster elegante e informativo. Yo creo que todos estamos muy contentos con el trabajo que hemos realizado. Cada trimestre hacemos un proyecto y cada vez el trabajo en equipo es mejor y más eficiente. Estoy muy orgulloso de todos.

| **Maite Arandilla** Head of Prep Spanish



Persuasive Writing Practice.

In English, Year 6 students were introduced to the concept of persuasive writing, focusing on how to influence a reader's thoughts and decisions. They explored AFOREST techniques—Alliteration, Facts, Opinions, Rhetorical questions, Emotive language, Statistics, and the Rule of Three—as key tools to strengthen their arguments. To apply these skills, pupils responded to a video announcement in which Mr Bailey declared a ban on playtime. Their task was to write a formal, persuasive letter arguing against this decision. Students were encouraged to structure their writing clearly, presenting logical arguments supported by AFOREST devices. They worked to adopt a convincing tone, demonstrating both respect and strong reasoning. By the end of the lesson, pupils had produced thoughtful letters showcasing their ability to persuade effectively.

I am writing to express my views on your opinion of banning our playtime. I strongly believe that we should not ban playtime because play builds creativity, imagination, language and reading skills. Furthermore, play helps behaviour and feelings. In addition, it keeps bodies healthy. You already take us away five minutes, leave us up every day, do you really want more.

I respect your opinion that we need to learn more. However, play builds imagination, creativity, language and reading skills. It shows by experts that play helps your brain grow by playing games meanwhile it helps you build independence. Creativity creates genius. When children are playing house or fighting imaginary dragons they are actually developing crucial life skills preparing their brains for the challenges of adulthood. Play is imagination, play is creativity, play is learning! Finally 100% of 5, I love play.

Are you really convinced that no Yr6 break is a fantastic, ~~and~~ necessary and rational decision? Yes? Well, I'm writing to you to help change your mind. Yr6 need break and ~~and~~ here's why...

Firstly, studies show that break doesn't affect grades negatively. In fact ~~that~~ break may actually support grades. Wasn't one of your points, 'I'm not convinced it's essential for learning.'? Well here's my proof to counter that.

Secondly, as I recall, one of your points was that, 'The priority right now is working hard.' Well, working hard requires focus, and guess what? Research implies that a break helps improve focus.

I am writing to express my thoughts on this idea. This is causing a lot of commotion. I find it frustrating that you think it is okay to do this. Do you really want to be responsible for ruining our childhood? Keep on reading to understand, compromise and acknowledge.

I am convinced that we need break for various reasons. You may think it is where most fights are born and you are right, 80% of the time and you may think this is bad but these fights actually help us mature and later on in life helps, like joining someone to talk to. Also this is crucial for the student well being, break allows us to take a breath and concentrate. In addition to this play keeps bodies healthy, in the UK child obesity is at 30% do you want that to happen at school?

Rhythm, Rhyme, and Humour!

Year 6 students explored the playful form of limerick writing, focusing on rhythm, rhyme, and humour. They were challenged to compose a limerick within ten minutes, encouraging quick thinking and creativity. The lesson highlighted the importance of rhyme schemes and how word order can be manipulated to maintain the correct stress pattern. Students experimented with rearranging phrases to ensure their lines flowed with the traditional limerick rhythm. The theme of "absurd" inspired imaginative and often humorous ideas in their writing. Pupils enjoyed pushing the boundaries of logic, creating surprising and entertaining verses. By the end of the session, they had produced lively limericks that demonstrated strong control of rhyme and rhythm.

| Imogen Warley Year 6 English Teacher

Elizabeth

Elizabeth was just a child
Everything she did would make you wild,
Everyday she screamed and played
Even if there was an air raid.

One day when she was in her house
She saw a mean and cruel cat catch a mouse,
But that wasn't all she saw
A robber breaking the law.

She didn't know what to do
She was already in a horrible stew,
Screams and shouts came from downstairs
When she walked down she saw nothing but chairs

She called her dad to come down
But all they saw was a white gown,
The police arrived
But the robber already thrived.

*excellent
use of
onomatopoeia
imagery*

Protest poetry writing!

Year 8 students were introduced to protest poetry through a unique and engaging model by Nico, featuring an intriguing and unconventional narrator. They explored how this poem offered a different perspective on protest, encouraging readers to think more deeply about voice and viewpoint. The class examined how Nico experimented with free verse, allowing ideas to flow without the constraints of a fixed structure. This approach was linked to inspiration from Maya Angelou's poem Caged Bird, particularly in its expressive and emotive style. Students analysed how language, imagery, and tone can convey powerful messages without relying on rhyme. They were encouraged to consider their own perspectives and how to present them creatively in protest form.

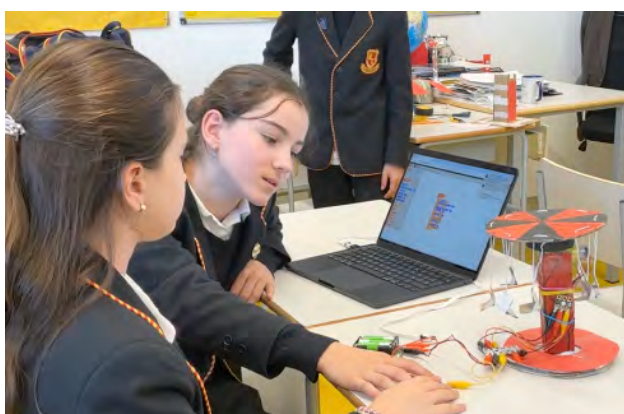
| Imogen Warley Year 6 English Teacher

Black cat

*I look around at ruins near
Seeing the blocks crumble in fear
A person passed and fell straight down
A fish swam by and decided to drown
I chase my future
But I cannot find it
Sometimes I think of my burning stupor
And I run and run but I cannot find it
When he looks at her
He feels emotion
But when I stop to purr
I start a commotion
I jump in water to wash it off
But sadly it will not leave
So I continue my journey to cough
That hairball that I can't seem to heave
Then maybe I will be accepted
And maybe I won't be rejected
By animals and humans alike
Because before they know it, I will strike*

| Nico Year 8 pupil

Year 7 Computing Studies



Fun and safe learning about Technology.

Year 7 have been finding out that despite all the advances in technology, humans are a species that have prospered because they learned how to build. They were set the challenge in Computing Studies of learning how to program new devices bought this year by the school which would let them control the speed and direction of that fairground favourite, the chair-o-plane. This was much more than just switching on and off a motor. They would have to learn how to use infinite loops and selection techniques to control a motor and lights in a way which simulated the real-life funfair attraction. Not only that, they would have to work in groups to construct the chair-o-plane from house hold materials, write an algorithm and then transform that into a bug-free program. Also, they would have to know how to react calmly when things went wrong - which they did! However, you can see by the photos the range of devices they built and the fun they had in making them. Even in an age of AI, human imagination and ingenuity are still at the centre of everything we do!

| Colin Fisher Head of Prep Computing Science

Year 5 Science Trip to MUNCYT

Taller QUE QUIMICA!

We went to the MUNCYT Science Centre for a school trip a few weeks ago, it was so much fun! We did three experiments which were easy but incredible. The first experiment was: Writing our name on a piece of paper with a pen that had alcohol for its ink. A few minutes later, with curcuma and water, we covered the page and then our written message appeared! The next experiment involved a mixture of cleaning products. We poured them, one by one, into a large test tube where they sat either on top or below each other, making layers like a cake and not mixing together! This was because all of the products varied in density. Finally, we created magic when placing a white powder into a pot of liquid and it formed crystal like structures. It was such a fun morning and we all enjoyed it so much!

| Anjana Year 5 Pupil



When we entered the bus to MUNCYT. It was about 10 minutes to arrive. Once we entered we were greeted by a very kind man who taught us about a lot about science. He asked us to rank six different liquids from most dense to least dense. After that, he gave us a blue liquid to put on a piece of paper and let it dry. Then he told us to put vinegar on the piece of paper once it had dried. He told us that once we put the vinegar, it would be red on the parts that we put the blue liquid and yellow on the parts we didn't. He then gave us a green or white liquid to fill up to 40ml, after that he told us to put salt into the cup where we had put the green or white liquid. This was called the forest. It was a very fun trip provided by Runnymede College.

| Tomas Year 5 Pupil

Year 7 Sociales

Ofreciendo el parte meteorológico diario

Este trimestre, los alumnos de Year 7 han aprendido mucho sobre el clima de España. Para poner en práctica lo aprendido, han llevado a cabo un proyecto en el que han preparado un telediario con la previsión del tiempo. Han trabajado en equipo, elaborando un guion, planeando los distintos personajes y aplicando el vocabulario adquirido durante el trimestre. Tras varios ensayos, los alumnos han representado su telediario con gran éxito. Ha sido una experiencia muy enriquecedora y divertida, en la que han demostrado todo lo que han aprendido.

| Maite Arandilla Head of Prep Spanish



Shrek Jr. The Musical!

Fairy creatures, swamps and lots of laughter!

Hi, my name is Yafei and I play Papa Ogre, Papa Bear, a Duloc greeter and Knight 3. I really enjoyed my time in the Shrek cast and I loved every second of all the rehearsals. It is 100% worth sacrificing my lunchtime, because I even had the chance to work out the average age of the cast. I am so excited for next year's musical. Musicals for me have always been something special, and being able to be part of one is magical. Everyone has been so kind and fun to work with. Thank you so much Ms Revie, Mr Quinn, Ms Robinson. I cannot wait for the 25th and 26th of March to arrive because being able to perform is, hands down, one of the best experiences you can have.

| Yafei Year 7 Pupil & Papa Bear

The grand finale of our Spring Term in Prep School was provided by two incredible performances of Shrek, The Musical. With wonderful colourful costumes, dances displaying polished choreography led by Ms Robinson, passionate singing accompanied by our band of musicians led by Mr Quinn, and stunning acting from a cast of 42 talented students from across all year groups, the show was the best school performance I have seen in my 26 years as a teacher and parent. Pulled together by director Ms Revie, the show bristled with jokes delivered with great comic timing and was a delight to watch from beginning to end. It was an incredible team effort, and it was obvious that all the team thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience - from the first rehearsal to the final song of the final performance. Well done to you all! I absolutely loved it!

| Andrew Moore Head of Prep English



Prep School Disco: Dress to Impress!

Suits and elegant dresses stole the show!

What started as a fun disco theme took on a life of its own in the build up to the Prom Disco night! Promposals, gifts and limousines were quickly banned and more than 120 children from Yrs 6,7 and 8 came dressed up in suits and ties and beautiful dresses for a fun evening of dancing, photos and games organised by the 6th Form Charity Committee. There were lots of impressive dance moves, and with smiles aplenty, everyone had a good time and the Fundación was the ultimate winner of another big donation from a Prep School event.

| **Duncan Bailey** Prep School Headmaster



Prep School Disco: Dress to Impress!



IAPS Ski Championship in Italy

Runnymede dominating the Italian Slopes!

The Prep School sent an indomitable team of skiers to compete in the IAPS Championships in Ponte di Tonali, Italy. After several late call ups, our 16 skiers took to the slopes with real gusto and energy. It was immediately apparent that we had assembled the best team possible - and Celia posted the fastest qualifying time of the 250 competitors. Runnymede were overall team champions, and our skiers also won the following:

The parallel slalom

Under 13 girls championship (Olivia)

Under 11 girls championship (Sara)

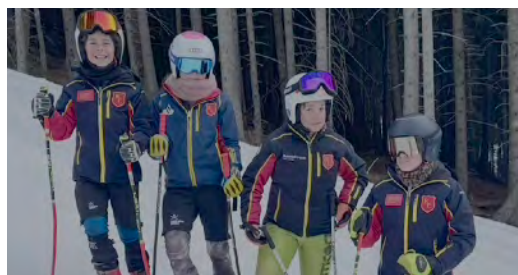
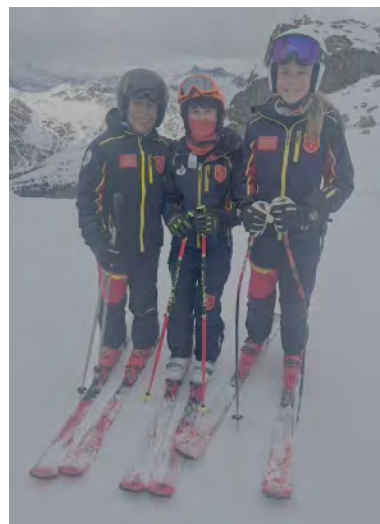
Under 11 boys championship (Gonzalo A)

Under 13 girls (Olivia, Cecilia, Mencia, and Celia)

Under 13 mixed (India, Gonzalo E, Mateo)

Under 11 mixed (Gonzalo A, Sara and Rodrigo)

Under 11 girls Plate (Carlota)



IAPS Ski Championship in Italy

Of course, this is all very impressive, but much more important than that, Runnymede was on the lips of every other school out in Italy because our racers were good sports, humble, polite and great company all round both on the slopes, in the restaurants and particularly in the karaoke night! In short, it was a very successful week!

| **Duncan Bailey** Prep School Headmaster



Fundación Runnymede College Gala

Elegance for a good cause.

The Fundación Runnymede College Gala this year was held at the wonderful Four Season's Hotel, and it was great to see so many Prep School parents looking fabulous and enjoying the evening, and early hours of the morning! The focus of this event was twofold: celebrating friendship and the Runnymede community, and fundraising as much as possible to change lives for exceptional students heading to top UK universities. After a brilliant evening with a lively auction, delicious food and a fun DJ, I am delighted to reveal that we raised in excess €313,000 which is tremendous. A huge heartfelt **thank you** to all those involved in this special evening.

| **Duncan Bailey** Prep School Headmaster



FUNDACIÓN
RUNNYMEDE
COLLEGE

Supporting
Excellence

4.2 Science Class

The science of music.

In their science class, Year 4.2 was busy transforming everyday household items into creative musical instruments. Using objects like empty tins, rubber bands, cardboard boxes, and plastic bottles, the children explore how sound is made through vibrations. As they experiment, they learn how changing the size, shape, or tension of materials affects pitch and volume. The classroom buzzed with curiosity and excitement as students test their ideas, work together, and proudly demonstrate their homemade instruments, turning a science lesson into a fun and hands-on discovery of sound.

| **Madeleine Hickman** Year 4 Form Tutor



Runnymede Book Fair

Books for Everyone

On Tuesday, the 26th of May, the Library will be hosting a Book Fair from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Books, both fiction and non-fictions, suitable for all ages from Pre-Prep through Prep to Secondary will be available to browse and purchase.

Parents are most welcome to come and join. Prior to the event, a timetable will be published with times for each class to attend so that you may accompany your child, should you wish.

We look forward to seeing you on the day!

| **Jon Walter** Library





Choral Poetry

We did "The Pig" by Roald Dahl. It was very fun because we wore some pigs ears together. Even Year 8 also did the same poem! The Year 8 changed it but ours was so good! It was the best poem ever!



Lilypad Artwork

We were very excited with our Monet lily pad work. Firstly, we got a paper we painted on it, we put some salt on it and couldn't use it for one day so that it would not bend. Secondly, we cut out two flowers, one small and one big. Finally, we made the middle flower. We cut them out of a paper and coloured it, but we did not cut it all the way to roll it. We put tape on it and we stuck it on and finished!



Snow Day!

The snow day in Madrid was awesome! First we went and made snowballs and threw them at each other. Next we made snowmen and took turns knocking them down. After lunch, we went up to the football pitch and I got hit in the face with a snow ball! It was the first time since I was 3! It was the best day ever!



Reading with Little Ones.

Firstly, when we got the new we were delighted. Then, when the day finally came we entered the room, it felt like we became the little ones. They had very good manners, even a boy shouted with excitement! He was so funny. Finally, it was the end of the day and they didn't even reject anyone. They were so kind.

Choral Poetry

This term in 4Q, the children wrote wondrous persuasive letters to convince Karl (the character from the book, The Clockmaker by Philip Pullman) to reject/accept a clockwork figure that becomes dangerously crazy if the word D.E.V.I.L is mentioned. Here is a fabulous example:

Dear Karl,

I implore you to reject the clockwork figure for the following three reasons. Read on and know that taking me advice won't only save your reputation but also save our town.

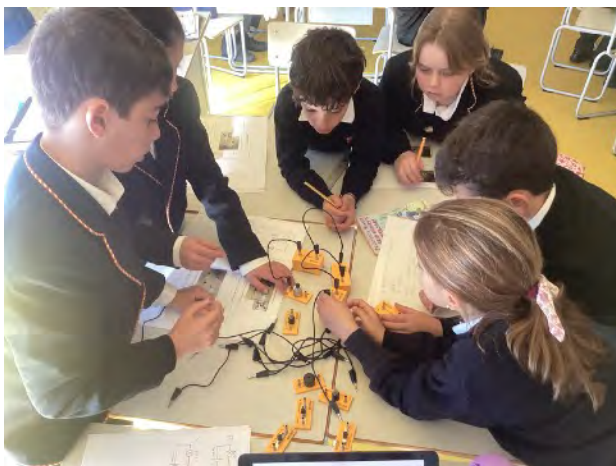
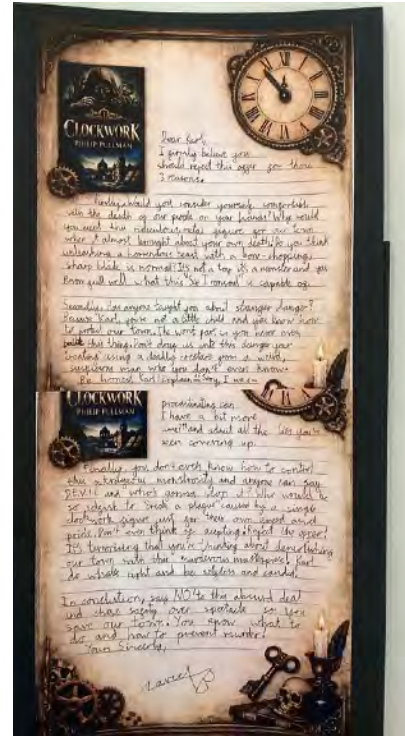
Firstly, adults don't always have to accept new toys and this is certainly a prime case where rejection is the only answer. There are lots of morals being tested...like do not trust strangers. Karl, just admit you haven't completed the figure and request an extension. Honesty may sting in the moment, but dishonesty erodes the foundation of trust.

Secondly, the figure is not safe! Did you not notice the blood bath that came pouring out of your hand. Do you want the blood of our people on your hands? NO!

Thirdly, and most importantly, the figure is out of your control. Did you realise that with a random word it will activate and and effortlessly kill you! The machine will not stop until his sharp sword is sunk deeply in your throat, another reason that calms down this monster is a special tune he likes. But imagine if he doesn't here the melody it would be an invitation to disaster!

Furthermore, you weren't interested in learning the simple piece of music. Karl, reject the figure without a a second thought clouding your judgment! Strangers should not be trusted. Listen to reason and reject the clockwork figure before anything gets out of control!

Your sincerely, Óliver



Understanding of Electricity.

Also in Science, Sound and Electricity were the topics being studied and the children had fun testing circuits with Conductors and insulators to see which materials would make a complete circuit. The students had fun creating their own instruments also pitch and amplitude were activated!

4.3 Adventures!

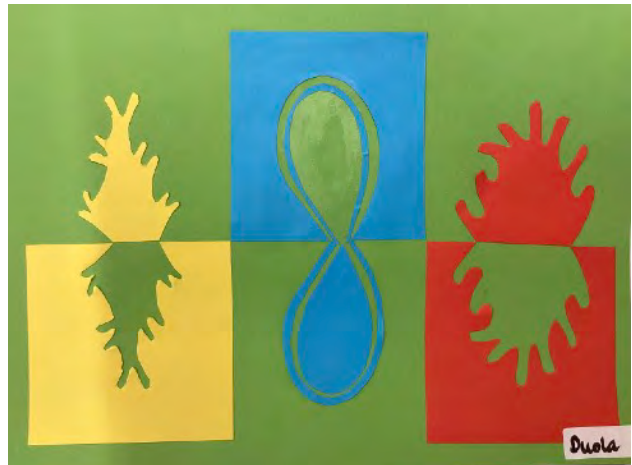
Everyday items to create music!

The students in Year 4 had an opportunity to try out designing instruments which changed in either pitch or amplitude. The variety and range of styles was really impressive! Congratulations for all of their efforts and skill. A very enjoyable project!



Learning from great artists!

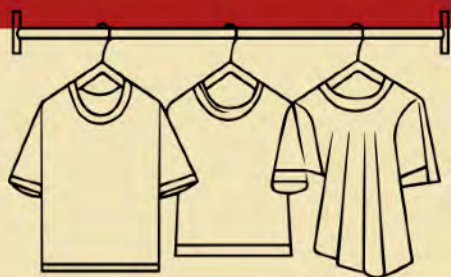
In Art this term, we explored some of the work by Matisse, recreating some collage work and experimenting with positive and negative images.



| Catherine Quirke Year 4 Form Tutor



FUNDACIÓN
RUNNYMEDE
COLLEGE



SECOND HAND CLOTHES SALE

GIVE YOUR CLOTHES A SECOND LIFE!

COLLECTION: 13TH-20TH APRIL

SALE: MONDAY 20TH APRIL FROM 2PM.

To celebrate Earth Day and support sustainable fashion, we are excited to host our second-hand clothes sale after the Easter holidays. Over the holidays, we invite all families to take part in a spring clean and donate items of clothing and accessories for all ages that deserve a second life. Please only donate clothes in excellent condition! Collection on entrance to campus, from 8.20am each morning from April 13th.



Please speak to Ms Howe, the Fundación Runnymede team or the Charity committee if you have any questions or queries.

Prep School Sports



Benjamín Inter Schools Football Champions



**Alevín Inter Schools 3rd Place
Volleyball Infantil 2nd Place**



Inter Schools Tag Rugby Boys and Girls

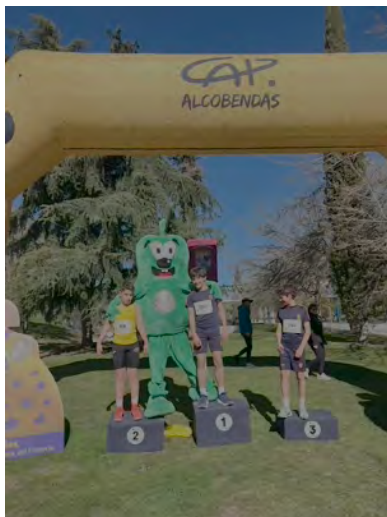


Infantil Football Boys Champions



Alevín Football Girls Bronze Medal

Prep School Sports



Weekend matches and races

Table Tennis Competition

Highlight : last day of the Spring Term!

The school came together to watch the table tennis finals on the last day of term. Surrounded by a raucous atmosphere of cheering and support, our finalists did battle and showed how good they all are. Above all, they were all good sports, and the heartfelt congratulations to the winners from the beaten finalists were great to see. In the Under 11s, Sol just pipped Carlota, and Manuel beat Alvaro. In the Under 13s, Gabriel beat Javier in the first match of the day, and Ana came out as the winner against Lucia. Table tennis has become a big sport at Runnymede, and I am very pleased that 10 Runnymedians will head to the UK next term to play the IAPS championships.





Important Dates for next term's diary... We look forward to seeing you!

Monday 13th of April - **Start of Term & Summer Uniform**

Friday May 1st & Friday May 15th - **Fiestas**

Friday 22nd May - **Prep School Sports Day**

Monday 25th to Friday 29th May- **Exams Week**

Monday June 1st to Friday June 5th - **Residentials Week**

Friday 12th & Saturday 13th June - **Prize Giving Days**

Saturday 13th of June - **Summer Fair**

Happy Easter!



EST. 1967

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