

HT Message – Mr. David Jeapes

I hope you and your family had a pleasant Easter Break.

The atmosphere around school is extremely calm and focused. Our new routines are now well established and infection rates within our community remain low. Notwithstanding this good news, it is important we remain vigilant and continue to observe the usual precautions:

- Hands – wash them frequently;
- Face – wear a face covering when required;
- Space – maintain a social distance whenever possible.

Most importantly...if your child is showing any symptoms of COVID then please do not send them to school and arrange for a 'PCR Test' using the link below:

[Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

I am very conscious of the need to provide clarity around the Summer Term, September start and Year 11 'rites of passage'. Subject to the relaxation of UK Government restrictions, we can share the following:

INSET Days and September start

The last day for all pupils in the current building will be Tuesday 20th July.

Mayfield will be closed to all pupils between Wednesday 21st July and Monday 6th September.

We will run a staggered start into the new school building as follows:

Years R to 7 and 11 will start on Tuesday 7th September;
Years 8, 9 and 10 will start on Wednesday 8th September.

Key dates for Year 11

All internal assessments for Year 11 will be completed by Friday 18th June – this will be the last day Year 11 are required to be on the school site. Please note that we may run a revised timetable for Year 11 from Monday 7th June. The leavers' assembly will take place on Monday 21st June between 2:45pm and 4:00pm.

Year 11 Prom is booked and confirmed for Friday 9th July at The Marriott Hotel.

GCSE results day will be on Thursday 12th August – in the new school building.

In the coming weeks, via tutor periods, we will share more details about the arrangements for the leavers' assembly, prom and results day.

Mrs. Gayle Head will also be producing a document for pupils and parents about how we will conduct our internal assessments and produce 'centre assessed grades'. This will be shared shortly.

Friends of Mayfield "Family Fun Day"

On Saturday 17th July we will be hosting the FOM Family Fun Day. This will provide an opportunity for any member of our community to tour the old building as well as take part in an afternoon of fun events! Please keep an eye out on social media for more details!

Summer School 2021

As is customary at Mayfield, we will be running a Summer School for children in Years R to 7. We are planning to run this during the week beginning Monday 23rd August. More details will be published shortly.

National survey of children, The Big Ask

The new Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has today launched [The Big Ask](#) – the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in England. It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so that we can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Parents, care leavers and those working with children are also invited [to complete the adult survey](#) to share their views about the future for children and young people today, and what they think is holding young people back.

The results from this survey will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.

Travelling to school and college safely

We have been asked by the DfE to share the following information with you regarding travel to and from school:

- if you live a short distance from your school or college, walk, cycle or scoot to and from school wherever it is possible and safe to do so
- avoid sharing a car with anyone outside of your household or support bubble
- if you are using public transport to get to school or college, plan ahead and allow more time for your journey
- when you are travelling by public or dedicated school transport, don't forget to:
 - wear a face covering (unless you are exempt – including if you are aged 11 and under). It is important you wear them for the entirety of your journey, including inside a bus or train station
 - social distance where possible
 - wash or sanitise your hands regularly
 - be considerate to fellow passengers and staff.

Further information can be found in our [guidance on transport to school and other places of education](#). The Department for Transport has also created [resources](#) that can be downloaded and used by education settings to promote safe travel to school.

School Crossing Patrol

From Monday 26th April, we will have a School Crossing Patrol in place on the corner of Mayfield Road and Lyndhurst Road from 8.10am till 8.50am and 3.20pm till 4.40pm. Thank you to everyone who has lobbied Portsmouth City Council to get this valuable service for our school.

Mobile Phones

I would like to remind parents, carers and pupils that the use of a mobile phone whilst on the school site is prohibited. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please call:

02392693432 Ext 225

Equally, if a pupil needs to make a call – they can go to Pupil Services who will arrange for this to be made. Many thanks for your support with this.

Uniform and Equipment

I would like to thank parents and carers for their considerable efforts in sending children back to school very smartly dressed. The consistent application of a uniform is one of the key steps to easing children back into full time face to face teaching. We know that pupils appreciate not having to worry each day about what they are wearing to school. That said, we fully appreciate that times are difficult for families and if you are in need of some support with the purchase or loan of uniform items, then we stand ready to help. Please email Mrs. Erika Anders, SENCo, for a discrete and confidential discussion:

AndersE@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

We will continue to provide all Primary Section pupils with individual stationery packs to minimise the sharing of equipment. We ask that all pupils in our Senior Section carry the following:

- Black pen and pencil plus spares;
- Purple pen for feedback;
- Glue stick;
- 30cm Ruler and an eraser;
- CASIO Fx Series calculator;

In order to support families, we have produced a cost-effective pack containing all the above items which can be purchased for £9.30 via our Scopay system and picked up from the Main Reception. If you have any questions about our online payment system, please email:

BackhouseD@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Additionally, we request that Senior Section pupils bring in:

- Face covering – plus spares;
- water bottle;
- reading book (for children in Years 7 and 8).

Medication

If your child needs to take any medication during the school day OR you wish to give us permission for them to use a school inhaler due to Asthma. Then please complete the form below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=17eMxmGmGkarCHowINbkEaHjlq47r0VGrz2BEQDkaAhUQ0pZVjYxT0o3OURaNzJBR0xUQ004NjFQMi4u>

If you have any questions about how we manage medication or support children with underlying health issues or immunisations, please contact Mrs. Sally Rowntree, Health and Welfare Officer on:

healthandwelfare@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Job Opportunities

Please be aware we have the following job opportunities. See our website for details:

Assistant Headteacher
Year Leaders for EYFS, KS1 or KS2
Teacher of Technology (Food or Product Design)
Behaviour Support Assistants

Governing Body Update

We would like to introduce ourselves as recently re-elected parent Governors:

My name is Kelly Perrett and I have two children in the junior section of Mayfield School. I am a project Manager and supply chain Director for Jo Malone London. I have completed safeguarding course and the GDPR courses for education and business and have been the lead Governor in this area. I have supported the careers department offering support and advice using my contacts in the Business sector. I regularly visit the school paying attention especially to the infant and junior section, talking to teachers, TAs and supporting the Leadership team. I have listened and challenged and supported where needed.

Hi, I am Jason Crouch. I have two daughters in the junior section currently. My first Parental Governor term involved lots of personal development with training covering school finances, safeguarding, health and safety, etc. I have spent time as Chair of our Finance, Personnel and Estates committee, and also represent schools on the Portsmouth Schools Forum. I have lobbied the council to provide us with a School Crossing Patrol and safer travel into school. In the last year I joined the Friends of Mayfield committee also as I realise my children have benefited from all the events they run and wanted to give something back.

Since December 2018 I have worked with a few other Governors and leaders on the new school build project, to maximise the outcomes for the school staff and our children and ensure we have first class infrastructure and design. This includes us now having a production kitchen to produce more school meals from fresh on site instead of having them shipped pre-cooked onto site. With the on-time opening this summer, I'll be conscious of Health & Safety as the old site is demolished and the site is landscaped. We as Governors, over the last 18 months have pushed hard to alleviate dangers around school site and you will see some progress on that in the coming months in terms of works.

As parent governors we play a vital role on governing body, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. Through our children, we have a first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum, and how the school is perceived from the 'consumers' point of view. This enables us as parent governors to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the school. It is important for parent Governors to establish a rapport with the parental body which elected us, whilst continuing to maintain a strategic approach to school governance.

Parent governors are representative parents rather than representatives of parents. To effectively fulfil the role, parent governors should:

- Make themselves known to the parental body;
- Try to attend in-service training sessions;
- Listen impartially to concerns raised by parents;
- Guide parents regarding appropriate lines of action and procedures;
- Challenge the school Leadership to continually evolve and develop;
- Present a balanced view of issues, representing different sections of the community.

You can contact any member of the Governing Body by emailing Mrs. Pat Janiec, Clerk to the Governing Body, on:

pat.janiec@ntlworld.com

Or by writing a letter addressed to Mrs. Pat Janiec c/o Mayfield School.

Head of Seniors (Miss Louise Hillier)

The Senior pupils have come back from the Easter holiday very well and are engaging very positively with their learning.

On Wednesday we had our Year 11 photographs- ready for their Year Book-and it felt so lovely to be doing something “normal” after the turbulent last 12 months. The pupils looked very smart and behaved extremely sensibly- it is no mean feat to get the whole of Year 11 arranged on the staging and smiling simultaneously! I am sure that these Year Books will be a great memento of their time at Mayfield.

Miss Taylor launched the prefect application process to Year 10 this week- please ask your child about this as it was launched in the Year 10 Tutor sessions. We look forward to receiving the applications by the end of Friday 30th April. Once we have appointed our Prefect team, we will start the process to appoint Captains and Senior Prefects. Please do encourage your child to put themselves forward for this exciting opportunity.

Year 9 Parents Evening went well this week – thank you to all the parents who logged on to talk to staff. We really do value these opportunities to meet you- albeit virtually. Year 9 are selecting their options at the moment and these need to be completed by 6th May. Mrs Head is running our option process this year so if you have any questions, she can be reached on head@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk.

Years 7 and 8 have their Summer 1 Prep to be completing. The tasks can be found on our website [here](#). We do have a homework club running after school for pupils who need support or access to the internet etc for which there is no need to book. Details of what nights are available can be found on our extra-curricular programme [here](#).

Could I please ask you to remind your child that phones are not allowed to be used in school- if they are seen they will be confiscated. Therefore, there is no need for any pupil to be wearing headphones or ipods or similar in the building. Thank you for your support.

Finally, could I remind you that as the weather has become a little warmer that pupils are required to bring a water bottle to school every day. These are refillable at break and lunchtimes in the eating areas/canteens.

Head of Primary (Mrs Fiona Rogers)

We have had a super start to the summer term and thank parents for their support in upholding our uniform requirements. There are a number of pupils who arrive at school regularly without their tie so please do make sure that these are not left at home. You can purchase replacement ties via your school ScoPay account. All pupils must also have their PE kit in school by now.

This week we have launched to pupils in years 4 and 5 the opportunity to apply for the position of Playground PAL. Playtime Activity Leaders will be receiving training throughout the summer term ready to lead activities in years 1-3 from September 2021. There is more information about this on our celebration assembly this week which will be sent out to parents in the usual way. Deadlines for applications for this responsibility is Friday 30th April 2021.

On Friday 30th April, we are inviting all children to take part in the #captaintom100 challenge. Members of the School Council will be helping to choose the activity that their year group will take part in. Details of the challenge will be released in assembly on Monday but so far, we know that year R will be standing on one leg for 100 seconds and year 6 will be walking a combined distance of 100km around the perimeter of the school. We are hoping that all pupils can donate a minimum of 100 pence (£1.00) to participate and that the School Council can then help decide which good cause(s) will receive the donation.



In infants, Mrs Hall has been busy putting together an outdoor reading area and will soon be setting up a similar reading “nook” in the junior playgrounds. We have been given some picnic tables, jigsaws and giant Jenga for our outdoor play areas and are now running a number of lunch clubs where pupils can participate in quiet activities such as Lego, reading, board games, art and craft. This has really helped to make our playtimes more fun! We are always appreciative of donations and so if you have any picnic blankets, beanbags, cushions, parasols or outdoor play equipment that you no longer need, we would be very happy to receive them.



Year 5 have been enjoying their new English text - Fantastic beasts and where to find them! It is a playscript, so they are learning how to use their voices in different ways, when acting as different characters.



On Monday 10th May year 5 will be taking part in a Harry Potter themed day and so please encourage your child to participate by dressing up on this day. This is a really fun day for all of the children and staff and is a great way to get the children “hooked” on the books.

A couple of reminders this week. Please remember that if someone new is picking up your child, they must have your password which was submitted on your Main Authorised Person form. Please email Mrs Helen Patis on: patis@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk if you need to update this.

Also, please can you make sure that crisps and chocolate are not sent in packed lunch boxes. We have a lunch box policy [here](#), which should be adhered to.

Lastly, we still currently require adults to wear face masks when dropping off/picking up pupils so please do remember to always bring them with you and ensure that you follow our one-way system.

Head of Pre-school and Nursery

Welcome back after the Easter break. Our topic in class is now Spring. We shall discuss how Spring is a time of new beginnings and growth. Look at how different plants and animals change and grow in Spring.

Learning Intentions linked to topic:

- Look at various seeds place into groups according to size, shape, and colour.
- Describe what seeds need for them to grow by using our plant sequencing cards.
- Mathematical development, finding one more/ one less than a number from 1-10.

Letter sound for the week 'W'.

Finally, could I ask if any parents could donate any seeds or compost to support us with our class topic?