

HT Message – Mr. David Jeapes

As we shared with you last week, the levels of infection across the school continues to rise. I would strongly urge all pupils in Years 7 to 11 to undertake a LFT every Sunday and Wednesday evening. Also, if you are a parent, carer or family member visiting the school site – then please do take a LFT before leaving the house. If your child is displaying symptoms of COVID and/or tests positively on a LFT then please book 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/get-a-free-PCR-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus)

The use of a face covering (and bringing in a spare) is now strongly recommended for pupils in Year 7 to 11 and that children, of all ages, regularly wash or sanitise their hands.

Lateral Flow Testing for Seniors – January 2022

In order to reduce the spread of Covid-19 at the start of the new term, the DfE has asked schools to facilitate the asymptomatic testing of all year 7 to 11 pupils at the start of the new year. Each pupil will take one Lateral Flow Test prior to returning to school.

Parents need to provide further consent for their children to take part in this testing. Please can all parents complete the online consent form using the link below:

<https://forms.gle/NTSeEaWTjPzqwsxn9>

The testing will be taking place in the Sports Hall and pupils should arrive onsite via the Kensington Road gates at the following times:

Time	Tuesday 4 th January	Wednesday 5 th January
8.30am		Year 8 Discovery House
9.00am		Year 8 Victory House
9.30am	Year 7 Discovery House	Year 8 Endeavour House
10.00am	Year 7 Victory House	Year 8 Intrepid House
10.30am	Year 7 Endeavour House	Year 9 Discovery House
11.00am	Year 7 Intrepid House	Year 9 Victory House
11.30am		Year 9 Endeavour House
12pm		Year 9 Intrepid House
12.30pm	Year 11 Discovery House	
1.00pm	Year 11 Victory House	Year 10 Discovery House
1.30pm	Year 11 Endeavour House	Year 10 Victory House
2.00pm	Year 11 Intrepid House	Year 10 Endeavour House
2.30pm		Year 10 Intrepid House

There is no requirement for pupils to wear school uniform for their lateral flow tests and they should leave the school site immediately after testing. We will only contact any who test positively.

To accommodate the above, we will run the following staggered start to the term:

	Tuesday 4 th January	Wednesday 5 th January
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Year 7	LFT test on site and Online learning	Normal Lessons
Year 8	Online learning	LFT test on site and Online learning
Year 9	Online learning	LFT test on site and Online learning
Year 10	Online learning	LFT test on site and Online learning
Year 11	LFT test on site and Online learning	Normal Lessons

Links to the online learning will be shared with pupils via their school email and delivered via MS Teams. If parents or carers need the loan of a laptop, then please email Mrs. Erika Anders, on:

AndersE@Mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

All Primary Section pupils should return on Tuesday 4th January at the normal times and are not required to undertake an LFT.

OFSTED inspection

We understand that the section 8 report will be published on the OfSTED website in the coming days and before the return to school in January. This can be accessed here:

[Ofsted | Mayfield School](#)

We are pleased that the outcome of the inspection coincided with our own view of the improvement areas for Mayfield and provided a useful external perspective.

Improving Communication

We are conscious there have been some issues around effective communication over the last few weeks. Please be aware that if your child is absent from school then you can report this to us using the Studybugs app. Please use this link to register.

[Studybugs – Register](#)

For support with this, then please contact:

Attendance@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Free School Meal Vouchers for the Christmas Holidays

The free school meal vouchers for the Christmas holidays were delivered to parent's email inboxes on Thursday 9th December or posted out by Royal Mail on the same day.

If you are eligible for this scheme and have not received your voucher by Wednesday 15th December, please email stedmanm@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk so that any issues can be resolved before we break up for the Christmas holidays.

Extracurricular for Spring 1

The booking system for all Spring 1 extra-curricular clubs will close on Monday 13th December at 6.00pm. Please note that after this time we cannot add any more names, however, parents or carers may book their child (Primary section only) into the early tea club provision using ScoPay.

If you have any issue with booking clubs, or ScoPay, please contact Mr. Danny Backhouse, on:

backhoused@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

If you have any questions about our extracurricular provision, please contact:

Years R, 1, 2 and 3	Mrs Guy - GuyM@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
Year 4, 5 and 6	Mr Newsam - Newsam-James@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
Year 7 and 8	Mrs Firth - firthj@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Currently, we are collecting feedback about our extracurricular offer, if you would like to participate, then please use this link:

[Extra-Curricular Provision Survey - Google Forms](#)

Thank you!

Christmas Dinners, week beginning 13th December

In light of the increase in the number of staff and pupils testing positively for COVID on the school site. We have taken the decision to modify our plans around providing a Christmas Dinner for all staff and pupils.

All Primary aged pupils will receive a free Christmas dinner as follows:

Wednesday 15 th December	Year 4, 5 and 6
Thursday 16 th December	Year R, 1, 2, 3 and Little Sunbeams

It is intended that all Primary pupils take part in these celebrations, so packed lunches are not required for Juniors on their Christmas dinner day.

For all children in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 we continue to invite parents or carers to make a voluntary contribution, via ScoPay, of £2.25 per child. Parents of senior section pupils who have made this voluntary contribution, will have their money refunded by the Finance Team.

For pupils in our Senior Section, we will provide a seasonal treat as follows:

Tuesday 14 th December	Victory House
Wednesday 15 th December	Endeavour House
Thursday 16 th December	Intrepid House
Friday 17 th December	Discovery House

Senior section pupils will be given a voucher as they get their equipment checked first thing on their 'House' day. Pupils can exchange this voucher for a hot chocolate from 7.45am onwards or at either of the breaks from the main serving points in the Canteen or Café Tranquilo. The House teams will

deliver a tray of Christmas cupcakes and cookies to each tutor room during tutor time on that day to be shared out with pupils and tutors.

We want all members of our community to enjoy a COVID free Christmas and hope that by adjusting our plans as above, we can still allow pupils and staff to come together, but better manage the risk of infection in the run up to the Christmas break.

Christmas Present Appeal.

In the run up to Christmas, we shall be supporting the Salvation Army 'Christmas Present Appeal.



Please help to support children in our local community, by dropping off a new gift to one of the school gates. Gifts need to be unwrapped so that the Salvation Army can sort them and distribute them. The collection will begin on Wednesday 8th December and will continue until Wednesday 15th December. Thank you in advance for your support.

Head of Seniors – Miss Louise Hillier

With the last Hot Chocolate Friday of the academic year, I was delighted to meet a charming mixed group of Year 9 and Year 11 pupils.

The nominations by Heads of House were this week:

Discover	Scarlett and Scarlett
Victory	Frankie and Ellie
Intrepid	Martha and Skye
Endeavour	Poppy and Elise

As ever it was a pleasure to get the opportunity to know the children better and discuss the new school with them.





This week we were fortunate enough to have Miss Colmer leading our assemblies to think about Human Rights Day which is on 10th December each year. The pupils have spent time in their tutor groups thinking about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. It was very interesting and definitely got the pupils thinking- a big thank you to Miss Colmer for this.

This week a mixed football team of Year 7 played on Monday against Priory and the result was a 2-2 draw.

Also in action were our Year 11 football team who played Castle View on Wednesday and the result was a 1-0 win- well done to them.

As we approach the Christmas holidays can I please ask that as you replace any uniform for your children that you refer to our school uniform requirements which can be found on the link below:

[Our School | Mayfield School.](#)

Pupils must wear black trousers (not jeans or leggings) and shoes must be black polishable shoes. Thank you for your support with this.

Lastly as you think about things to pop under the Christmas tree then it is never a bad idea to top up your child's stationery! The basic list for all pupils is:

- Black pen
- Pencil
- Purple pen
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Highlighter
- Glue stick
- Scientific calculator

If you want to supplement this then a maths set with a protractor and pair of compasses would be good or a set of colouring pencils. Ho, ho, ho!

Head of Primary – Mrs Fiona Rogers

Today we have been feeling festive in our Christmas jumpers! Thank you to everyone who donated jumpers and money for this fantastic cause and helped us to raise £401.52. The photo below is of Freddie who was looking super smart in his Christmas blazer!



On Thursday we were able to welcome families to join us for the school Nativity. The children and staff worked so hard to ensure that this was an event to remember.

A big thank you to all of those who have kindly donated to our Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal already.



If you would like to donate an unwrapped present, please either drop to one of the gates in the morning or to temporary reception on Kensington Road.

Year 6 have enjoyed their week's learning this week. We have continued our study of the planet Earth focusing on non-chronological reports. We researched about our planet and the human effects on it, writing extensively about climate change and how we can play a role in reducing our impact on the planet. We also used our writing skills in English, researching, categorising and drafting information about different biomes around the world- focusing on Africa. The children then wrote about a biome, informing their classmates on them. In maths, the children have continued to apply their learning about multiplication to different scenarios: including decimals and competitive games- seeing who can achieve the highest product. We also launched our exciting new Year Group Assemblies in studio 3. The children were excited to spend time as a year group discussing being respectful and how they can continue to embed the 6Rs into their lives at Mayfield School.



Year 5 have been busy taking on 'Enterprise week!' They have been giving a big challenge which is to make as much profit as possible at the Christmas Fayre. To do this, they were given a budget and asked

to plan, make, promote and sell their products at the Christmas fayre. The winning group will be announced in assembly on Monday and all profit will be donated to charity.

Year 4 have been very busy this week! On Tuesday we welcomed in Parents and carers to share the work that we have been doing. The children were very proud to show off what they had been doing in their topic work this term. In English, we have been working hard to create our own survival guides. These are looking fabulous and the children have been very creative. In Science, we got very messy re-creating all of the different parts of the digestive system!

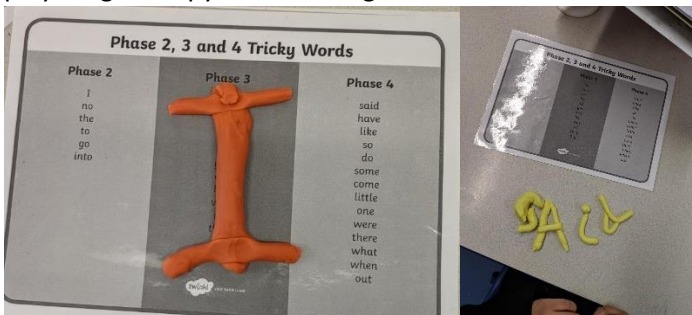


We are so proud of Year 3's resilience this week. We applied our learning of seasonality and healthy eating and created vegetable soup. They chopped and peeled a variety of vegetables from Chile, Italy and the United Kingdom. We invited families in to try some and the children compared the texture.



Year 2 had a brilliant time making their pizzas, using cutting skills learnt earlier this term to cut mushrooms, peppers and pineapple. It was agreed that the pizzas were delicious, and we liked being able to take some home to show our families. In Maths, we have been looking at coins this week and making the same amount using different coins. In English we have been learning all about instructions and how to use verbs and adverbs to develop our sentences further. We have enjoyed being a little bit bossy making our own commands!! Thank you to the children who bought their prep homework in.

Year 1 have been practising spelling tricky words using a range of techniques such as rainbow, playdough and pyramid writing.



In maths, we have been using number lines to help us with subtraction. We were able to make the link between addition and subtraction sentences.

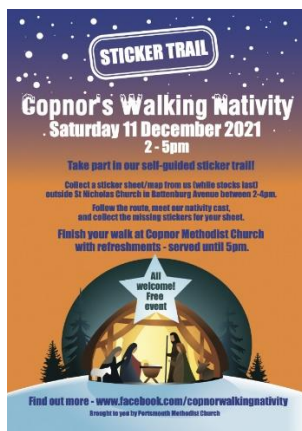
We hope you are able to visit on Tuesday 14th December at 3pm where pupils will be showing what they have learnt this half term. Please enter by the Year R gate on Mayfield Road and walk round to the Year 1 classrooms.

Year R have been super busy preparing to perform our Nativity this week. We have really enjoyed learning the songs and actions. Miss Bell helped us to learn sign language to use alongside our songs; thank you Miss Bell! The children performed to the rest of the Primary section on Wednesday and the children were fantastic. On Thursday, we finally got to show the children's families the Nativity that we have worked so hard on. It was a joy to see everyone in the hall after such a long time!

Year R have also been learning to read sentences during our Letters and Sounds sessions. We have been working together to point out the capital letters, tricky words and digraphs!

Once again this year the Copnor Walking Nativity will be taking place - but the big difference is that it's a free self-guided sticker trail!

People can collect a sticker sheet/map (while stocks last) from outside St Nicholas Church in Battenburg Avenue, between 2-4pm on Saturday 11 December 2021. They can then follow the route, meet the nativity cast, and collect the missing stickers for their sheet. The walk will finish at Copnor Methodist Church with refreshments, served until 5pm.



Please can I make parents aware that if pupils are dropped off to school before the gate opens at 8.30am, they are not supervised by staff, unless they are in breakfast club.