

## HT Message – Mr. David Jeapes

Despite a logistically demanding week, I am very pleased to report that the atmosphere around the school is very focussed and calm. We have now completed the first of three LFT for eligible pupils in Years 6 to 11 and can report that we have had no positive nor void results i.e. The test was not conducted properly. Please be aware that following each test, pupils will be issued with an NHS Track and Trace registration card with their individual bar code. Please use this to log your child's details and to receive notifications.

We have now commenced the second of three onsite tests and the remaining dates for the final LFT are shown below. As ever, we will only contact you if the result is positive:

	<b>Mon 15th</b>	<b>Tues 16th</b>	<b>Wed 17th</b>	<b>Thu 18th</b>
8.45am	Di 1 Mr Macey	Di 9 Mrs Clarke	Di 5 Miss Blest	Di 1 Mr Macey
9.10am	Di 2 Mrs Stedman	Di 10 Mr Gardner	Di 6 Miss Barnes	Di 2 Mrs Stedman
9.35am	Vi 1 Miss Abrahams	Vi 9 Mr Randell	Vi 5 Miss Painter	Vi 1 Miss Abrahams
9.55am	Vi 2 Mr Richardson	Vi 10 Mrs Gale	Vi 6 Mr Browning	Vi 2 Mr Richardson
10.20am	In 1 Mr Mullin	In 9 Miss Lawes	In 5 Mr Currier	In 1 Mr Mullin
10.40am		In 10 Miss Burnett	In 6 Miss Sinclair	
11.20am	In 2 Mrs Manns	Di 7 Mr Ralls	Di 3 Miss Rich	In 2 Miss Manns
11.40am	En 1 Miss Reynell	Di 8 Mrs Rogers	Di 4 Mrs Fairley	En 1 Miss Reynell
12.00pm	En 2 Miss Astles	Vi 7 Mrs Drudge	Vi 3 Miss Habgood	En 2 Miss Astles
12.20pm	Catch-ups	En 9 Mr Royle	En 5 Mrs Hughes	Catch-ups
12.40pm	Catch-ups	En 10 Miss Taylor	En 6 Mrs Childs	Catch-ups
1.00pm	Year 6 aged 11+	Vi 8 Mr Batchelor	Vi 4 Mrs Howard/Westbury	Year 6 aged 11+
1.20pm	Catch-ups	In 7 Miss Bradshaw	In 3 Mr Rafferty-Croft	Catch-ups
1.40pm	Catch-ups	In 8 Mr Jackson	In 4 Miss Mason	Catch-ups
2.00pm	Catch-ups	En 7 Miss Reilly	En 3 Mrs Shaw	Catch-ups
2.30pm	Catch-ups	En 8 Mr Norton	En 4 Mrs Franklin	Catch-ups

Whilst the above exercise should give us some comfort, I would like to remind pupils, parents and carers that whilst these tests are reliable, like any prognostic test, they are not 100% accurate. Consequently, the LFT should be seen as **one of a variety of steps** that we need to take to keep the COVID virus at bay. Consequently, if your child is showing any symptoms of COVID:

- high temperature
- new, continuous cough
- loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

then you must **not send them to school** and should order a home test using the link below:

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

Also, it is imperative that all pupils observe the usual hygiene steps, which, by now are familiar:

- Space – keep your distance whenever possible;
- Face – Use a face covering when required inside the school building;
- Hands – regularly wash your hands using soap and hot water or a hand sanitiser.

Every classroom has a supply of tissues so that children can practice the “catch it, bin it, kill it” mantra.

From Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March, we will begin to issue pupils in our Senior Section with a home testing kit. Please ensure that these tests are taken according to the following pattern:

Victory and Discovery House (yellow or red tie) on a Monday and Thursday  
Intrepid and Endeavour House (green or blue tie) on a Tuesday and Friday

Parents and carers will need to upload their children's test results to the NHS Track and Trace website using the instructions in the pack **and** also inform the school as we are required to keep our own register for these tests. Parents can do this in one of three ways:

- By completing the pupil [Google Form](#) on our website
- By email to [CovidTesting@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:CovidTesting@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)
- By phoning the Covid Testing answer machine on 02392 693432 ext 259

If your child's home test results are **positive**, then please ring the school immediately on 02392 693432. Outside school hours, please email [stedmanm@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:stedmanm@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk) We will then make contact with you to explain the next steps.

We will continue to maintain a smaller onsite Testing Facility in Room 32 for pupils who have significant barriers to testing at home. Please do email Mrs. Erika Anders, SENCo if you feel that your child would benefit from this support:

[AndersE@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:AndersE@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

Please be aware that household members with children aged over 11 can get their own kits:

- Through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- At a local test site
- By collecting a home test kit from a test site
- By ordering a home test kit online

Please click here for more information including where to find a test site:

[Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

### **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](mailto: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.portsmouths.ch.uk](mailto:BackhouseD@mayfield.portsmouths.ch.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).

### **Dogs and animals on site**

We ask that you do not bring your dog or other animals onto the school site when picking up or dropping off children.

### **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=17eMxmGmGkarCHowINbkEaHjIq47r0VGrz2BEQDkaAhUQ0pZVjYxT0o3OURaZJBR0xUQ004NjFQMi4u>

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](mailto:healthandwelfare@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

### **Feedback on remote learning w/e 5 March**

Please see here a selection of the lovely comments that parents, carers and pupils have shared with us around our onsite and remote provisions. Thank you for taking the time to write, we really appreciate this!

- *As a parent, I must express my gratitude to Ms Fairley for her online maths lessons during lockdown. I supported my daughter during her maths lessons at home whenever I was able, and I was extremely impressed by Ms Fairley's ability to convey complex ideas through a medium that is both new to all of us and somewhat daunting. Her use of technology – including split screen with visualiser – was so impactful. Students were able to benefit from modelling, from seeing the workings out, and all questions were differentiated according to set and ability. Ms Fairley's manner was calm and clear, she made excellent use of the chat function to ensure understanding,*

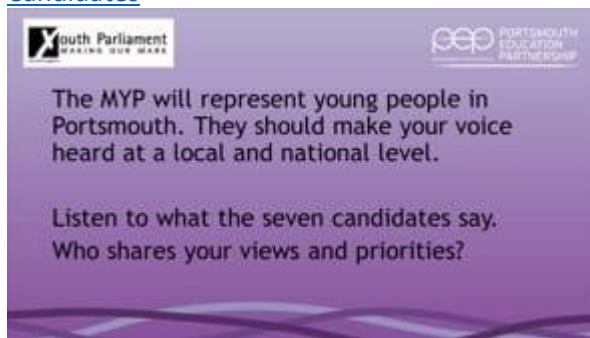
*and my daughter made real progress despite being unable to have face-to-face learning. No mean feat! My husband and I were both extremely impressed and extremely grateful.*

- *I would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Davis, she has been absolutely brilliant with all the home learning lessons. 'P' has really enjoyed logging on and learning and seeing all her friends. Mrs Davis has made it fun to learn and 'P' is excited to see what they are going to do each day. Well done for the organisation of it all.*

We have really enjoyed reading all of the positive comments that families have sent us around our remote learning and key worker provision. Thank you for taking the time to write.

### **Youth Parliament**

We have an exciting opportunity for students in our senior section to vote in our local youth elections! In Portsmouth, we are currently looking for our next Member of the Youth Parliament. All Portsmouth residents, students and workers aged 11-18 are eligible to vote and we would encourage everyone in our senior section to read the candidates' manifestos and watch the video here [Portsmouth's MYP Candidates](#)



To find out about the role and the candidates! Voting opens on Monday 8th March and closes on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March - please encourage your senior age student to consider using their democratic voice to vote in this election! For more information, the manifestos and to vote, please go to <https://www.portsmoutheducationpartnership.co.uk/myp/>

### **Job Opportunities**

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

Deputy Head of School (Primary)  
Clerk to the Governing Body  
Caretaker  
Library Assistant

### **Head of Seniors (Miss Louise Hillier)**

It is an absolute pleasure to have the whole Senior section back in school this week. All the pupils that came in for their Lateral Flow Test were very responsible and although we had some nervous children they really did make us proud.

The gates for entering the school in the morning have changed from before Christmas- Year 7 and Year 11 now enter through the brown gates off Inhurst Road and Years 8, 9 and 10 enter through the gate on Hewett Road by the Tennis courts. It is important that Years 7 and 8 are through their gate by

8:10am so that they get to resilience in good time, and Years 9, 10 and 11 need to be through the gate by 8:40am so that they are in their classrooms ready to start at 8:45am. Now we have had a run through for several days I am confident that this will be soon become embedded.

Thank you for supporting us with such high standards of uniform- most pupils have come back looking very smart. Could you please take the time this weekend to check that your child has their full equipment- I know finding some of the bits has been tricky!

### **Head of Primary (Mrs Fiona Rogers)**

It has been absolutely amazing to welcome back the whole of Primary this week. So many cheerful faces coming through the gates in the morning have really cheered us all up. The first week back has been very settled and there has been a lovely atmosphere of learning across the Primary section.

Thank you to those of you who have been ready for school by arriving in your full school uniform and remembering to bring in their PE kit. I am aware that several year 3 pupil PE kits have been misplaced over the lockdown. Please contact your child's teacher in the first instance if this applies to you. In the meantime, if you do not have a PE kit or are awaiting an order, please send in a black t-shirt or a t-shirt in your child's house colour so that they can still participate in PE.

This week we have spent some time talking to pupils about "Beeing Kind" to one another. We have asked pupils to remember to use kind words and kind hands, especially in the playground. Please make sure that you talk to your child about the importance of this if you can.

Extra-curricular clubs are currently taking place for those who need after school care. Whilst the behaviour of children in clubs is usually exemplary, there are a number of pupils who have not behaved in a respectful way to staff. This is not acceptable and parents will be informed of any incidents when they take place. If your child receives three warnings regarding their behaviour, it may be the case that they can no longer attend and will need to go to early tea club instead for which a charge is applicable.

Red Nose Day 2021 takes place on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March. In a slight change to the bulletin last week, a limited amount of red noses can be purchased for £1.50 via ScoPay up until Thursday and will be delivered to children in class on Friday. It is important that noses are not shared with others during the school day. Whilst we are not having a non-school uniform day this year, we will still be having some comic relief! On Monday pupils will have an assembly where the red nose joke competition will be launched. All pupils can enter their favourite joke for an entry fee of 50p. Anyone who wishes to enter can do so by writing their joke on a red nose template and handing it to their teacher with 50p attached. This money will be quarantined for at least 72 hours before being counted and a total shared with pupils. Pupils can enter as many times as they like for 50p per go, but entries must be in by Wednesday. Please keep an eye on your SIMS parent app for more details.

Finally, please can I ask that parents conduct themselves in an appropriate manner when dropping off and picking up their children. There have been a number of incidents recently where other parents and staff have been verbally abused and foul language has been used in front of children. This is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. We will look to make other arrangements for drop off and pick up if parents cannot adhere to this. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

### **Head of Pre-school and Nursery**

Unfortunately, we still seem to be having problems with school uniform. Can you please clearly label every item to prevent cardigans or jumpers going home with the wrong child by mistake.

Our topic will continue with the theme 'Dinosaurs' - in class we shall discuss the role of a Palaeontologist introducing vocabulary extinct, excavation, herbivore, carnivore and names of dinosaurs that the children are not familiar with. The children will be taking part in a dinosaur dig. They will carefully excavate bones hidden in the sand, sort the bones by size, shape and labelling what they find.

Learning intentions linked to class subject:

- Promoting mark making to record findings;
- Sort the dinosaurs by eating habits, Carnivore, Herbivore or Omnivore;
- Mathematics - create a dinosaur using 2d shapes.

Letter sound of the week is 'T'. The children really enjoy sharing thier work at circle time with their peers. The teachers use their work to promote the speech sound.

I am still in the process of adding all your emails to the system in Microsoft Teams. When this is complete, I will organise the Parents' evening.