

Message from the Chair of the Governing Body – Mrs. Sara Williams

I am heartened to hear that the remote learning is being really well received and that the link between remote learning and those who are in the classroom is working well. I'm sure you would all want to join me in saying a huge thank you to the staff. They, like all of us, are juggling keeping their own families safe with their work commitments, but in their case their work commitment is to keep your children safe too. Many have given their own time to ensure that your children get the very best continuity of education possible when they too are tired and worried, and I am personally very proud to be a part of a school that has such dedicated staff.

The school is of course open for those who need it, but numbers are currently really high in comparison to other schools who are managing the KWS far more strictly than us. We really don't want to have to follow their examples as we are very proud of our role in supporting the community, but I would ask all of you to remember that if you have KW status to only send your children if you need to. Government advice is clear ...

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.

Please all stay safe out there and keep in touch.

HT Message – Mr. David Jeapes

As Mrs. Williams shared in her message, the number of children in 'key worker school' (KWS) is significantly higher than in previous lockdowns. Whilst I understand the pressure on families, it is imperative that, whenever possible, we all "Stay Home, Stay Safe. Protect the NHS". I would like to draw your attention to new guidelines issued by the Government around forming a 'childcare bubble':

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-childcare-bubble-with-another-household>

We ask that **even if you are eligible for KWS, you consider carefully if you need to access this provision and use KWS as a last, rather than a first, resort. Also, since children in KWS follow the same timetable, please only send them on the days required.** By reducing the number of children in school, we help stop the spread and minimise risk to staff and our community.

Expectations for onsite provision

We have further developed our risk assessment in light of the latest guidance. It is essential that if your child is showing symptoms of COVID 19 then they do not come into school. When in school, pupils will be required to take the usual protective measures depending on their age.

Please be aware that if your child is attending KWS or SEN school then they will be following the same timetable and curriculum as those learning from home. Our expectations of uniform and equipment remain the same and we require all pupils to wear their full school uniform and observe all our normal dress and behaviour rules. Please note that if a pupil's behaviour falls short of our standards and they consistently breach our risk assessment, we reserve the right to withdraw their place and offer an alternative provision instead.

Reporting a child absence

If your child is attending KWS then please report any absences using our established mechanisms:

To report a pupil absent : 02392 693 432 ext 271
To report a pupil absent : 0790867645
To report a pupil absent : attendance@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Wrap around care

We continue to offer breakfast and teatime clubs for Primary Section children only. These can only be booked via the school's Scopay system and run as follows:

Breakfast Club 7:45am to 8:45am £4.50 including food
Tea-time Club 3:00pm to 6:00pm £9:00 including food

For questions about our online payment system, Scopay please email Mr. Danny Backhouse, on:

BackhouseD@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Remote Learning

You will be aware that the Government have now placed a duty on schools to provide 'high quality remote learning' in the case where a school is partially open. To ensure that all pupils make good progress, we have decided that children accessing our KWS provision and SEN school will follow the same timetable and curriculum as those learning from home. Our approach to online teaching is to provide children with a mix of 'live' teaching and pre-recorded sessions. We have produced some guidance for parents, carers and pupils which can be found on our website:

<https://mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk/communications-from-us> (scroll to information for parents)

If you have any questions about our remote learning offer or wish to provide some feedback, then please email Mr. Andy Tite, on:

Tite@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

I can confirm that all 160 laptops issued to the school by the Government have now been lent out to families in need of this support. If you have a spare laptop which you are happy to donate to a child in need, then please email Mrs. Erika Anders, on:

AndersE@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Also, we can confirm that the Government have issued the school with a limited number of data packages to distribute to vulnerable families. Please contact Mrs. Anders on the email above to discuss a free data package or If your child is struggling to access home learning.

In addition, the Microsoft Teams App is available on Android and IOS. This can be downloaded and run through a phone on Wi-Fi allowing connection to the meeting, viewing of shared materials and also participation in the text chat.

Stationery

We are happy to provide the following items of stationery free of charge:

- Exercise books – lined, square or plain
- Glue sticks
- Pens and pencils

If you would like to take advantage of this, please come into the Main Reception as part of your permitted 'daily exercise' and pick up some of the above. Please note that we will only issue one of each item per adult. If you are unable to leave the house, then email our 'general' account and we will arrange for these items to be posted home.

Sanitary products

We are aware that some families may need access to sanitary products whilst they are not at school. If you require any of these products, please complete the Google form which can be found [here](#). A package will then be prepared, and arrangements made for you to collect it.

Free School Meals

By now, families eligible for benefits related free school meals (not universal infant free school meals) should have received vouchers to their registered email address. If your vouchers have not arrived, and your child is not enrolled in KWS or SEN School, then please alert Mr. Matt Stedman, on:

Stedmanm@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Please do check your 'junk' box and also consider downloading the SIMS Parent App – this is the main means of communicating directly with parents and carers. For support with SIMS Parent App, email Mrs. Helen Patis, on:

Patis@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Children eligible for a free school meal who attend an onsite provision will get this daily.

Feedback on remote learning w/c 11 January

I just wanted to say what an amazing job you are doing and the kids and parents are very grateful for the online learning you are providing. O has been very engaged and even said that he thinks he is doing more work now than in school (smile). I have also mentioned to Mr Jeapes what a great job you have done this week, it is very challenging I know.

I just wanted to say thank you for what you are doing with the online teaching. The quiz was great and it sounded like you had fun presenting it! G has been happy to sit and learn and it's been nice to watch (and help her with maths). I think being able to ask me for help when she needs it has given her some confidence to be able to get on with the tasks.

Thank you for making this fun this week for C, he told me he has surprisingly enjoyed it a lot more than the thought. Today, I think he has been tired from a tiring week of learning. Please don't mention this to him as he gets embarrassed at me emailing any teacher. Also, he has really been enjoying drawing – thanks to you, he wanted a light board and tracing paper for Christmas.

Just a little email to say that me and my partner were listening in to your quiz and we think you were brilliant, what a fun teacher! We were laughing so much. Thank you for keeping the kids happy and learning.

Thank you for the vocal feedback, that is great, A beamed then frowned (handwriting), we will work on that. Just generally, the parent group lit up with positive comments on vocal feedback helping some motivate. Great idea, thank you.

Your staff are amazing. Miss Hanick is a superstar, as are the support staff in school with the KW and SENd children. Please pass on our thanks and appreciation.

English sessions allowed her to expand her vocabulary even more which is lovely to see. The way Miss Leslie conducts those without any judgement and with patients, is nothing far from remarkable. Having sat through some sessions and hearing repetitive questions being asked again and again, frankly makes her a Saint!

If you would like to share feedback, then please do send this to:

General@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Rewarding pupils during this period of remote learning

We will continue to share celebration assemblies for primary pupils via the SIMS parent app. We will also be posting home certificates which will be quarantined for at least 72 hours before being sent home.

This week we will also begin emailing senior pupils directly to share rewards and parents via the SIMS parent app. Pupils will also be able to earn achievement points throughout the period of remote learning.

Lateral Flow Testing

We are delighted to report that our rapid testing facility is now open. The purpose of this resource is to test pupils (in Years 7 to 11) and staff that are NOT showing symptoms. If your child is showing symptoms, then they MUST NOT come into school. It is essential that all pupils within our Senior Section complete a registration and consent form – even if you do not want your child to take a test. Please complete the e-form below to give (or withhold) consent as soon as possible:

<https://forms.gle/4vze98MHnMDYnSCBA>

Please note that if your child is identified as a ‘close contact’ and you do not wish them to take part in the daily testing, then they will need to self-isolate as per Government guidance. We will be offering pupils within our Senior Section who are attending KWS weekly testing.

Head of Seniors (Miss. Louise Hillier)

Theme of the week: Careers **Taking responsibility for my learning**

The Theme for this week couldn't be more apt- we need all our Senior pupils to be taking responsibility for their learning. As we finish week 2 and look to begin the third week of online learning, pupils now know how to access all the things they need to! Thank you to those parents who are supporting their

children and mailing in when a website login doesn't work etc and thank you to our dedicated onsite team who are addressing every issue as it comes in. I hope you have settled into workable routines at home.

Over the week I have dropped into some great Online Lessons! I have seen Year 7 sharing pictures of their rocks in Science and watched the PE team challenge pupils to beat them in different areas of fitness. I have discovered a new Billy Joel song in a music lesson and remembered how much I love straight lines in a Maths lesson! I would like to say thank you to all the pupils for engaging so well but also a big thank you to the staff who are working extraordinarily hard to produce great lessons. Well done everyone.

As this difficult time continues please encourage your child to engage with school in more than just lessons. They will be invited to a small group chat with their tutor on a regular basis, and we would love to see every one of the pupils attend their session. We also have the House email addresses I mentioned last week so please do use these if you or your child have any concerns or questions.

Discovery@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Victory@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Intrepid@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Endeavour@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

A member of the House team will be monitoring these every day so if your child, or you, has any questions, comments, concerns, please ask them to email here.

Head of Primary (Mrs. Fiona Rogers)

This has been a fantastic week for remote learning. I am so very proud of all the pupils and staff who have been working so hard to maintain routines and produce such an excellent standard of work. I have dropped into several lessons this week and have been impressed with the learning that is happening.

Parents must maintain social distancing at drop off and collection. Please do not wait around to have conversations with staff unless urgent messages for that day need to be passed on. Any other messages can be sent to class teachers via email. 2m distances must be adhered to when waiting to drop off or collect and face coverings must be worn. It is essential that we do everything that we can to protect everyone in the building.

For children who are accessing our on-site provision, can I remind you that the uniform requirements remain the same. If your child has lost their tie, you can order a replacement [here](#):

Whilst pupils in years 3-6 are able to have packed lunches currently, a reminder that the usual lunch box policy applies. Please do not send crisps, chocolate and sweets in lunch boxes.

It has been great to receive so much positive feedback from parents around our remote learning offering. I would like to reiterate that pupils at home are getting exactly the same diet of learning as those who are in school so thank you to those critical workers who are keeping their children at home when possible. If you wish to raise issues or share your feedback with staff, there are parents' evenings set up as follows:

Year R Monday 18th January between 3:30pm and 6:30pm

Year 1	Tuesday 19 th January between 3:30pm and 6:30pm
Year 2	Wednesday 20 th January between 3:30pm and 6:30pm
Year 3	Thursday 21 st January between 3:30pm and 6:30pm
Year 4	Monday 25 th January between 3:30pm and 6:30pm
Year 5	Tuesday 26 th January between 3:30pm and 6:30pm
Year 6	Wednesday 27 th January between 3:30pm and 6:30pm

Please use the online booking system should you wish to make an appointment. The link to this can be found [here](#):

Please note that on the day of your appointment, your child's teacher will not be available for any feedback between the hours of 12pm and 3.30pm.

I hope that some of you have been participating in Mr Reid's weekly challenge. Please do send any photos of the children taking part to: reid@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk. We will celebrate the children's achievements through our Friday Celebration Assembly.

Finally, please do ensure that pupils who are participating in video calls are not in bed or unsuitably dressed. If sending in photos of pupils, please let the teacher know if they have permission to share this via our SIMS parent app Celebration assembly.

Head of Pre-school and Nursery

The class topic will continue with the theme 'winter'. In class we will be exploring colour, texture, shape, and form.

Learning intentions linked to class subject:

- Talk about their ideas and help extend their thinking through questioning;
- Create Ice Art looking at cause and effect;
- Use descriptive words, extending vocabulary through creative artwork.

Letter sound for the week 'M'. Thank you for continuing to create a collage with your children, we use their lovely work at circle time to support speech sounds.

From next week in class, we will introduce a word wall. Each week we will choose two words to put on the wall, from your High Frequency Booklet which has been sent home in your children's book bag.

These booklets are for all those children starting school this year, but it will support all of our children to recognise and blend words together.

Finally, if you have changed your phone number or changing address please let the office know it's important, we have your correct contact details on file in case of an emergency.