

HT Message – Mr. David Jeapes

I trust that you and your wider family are well. As we enter the fourth week of the National Lockdown, we are keen to hear from parents, carers and pupils around their views on how 'online teaching sessions' are going. If you have any feedback, then please do send this to:

General@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

In line with the Department for Education's guidance, we have published a document clarifying our remote learning offer. A link to this can be found [here](#).

Please be aware that this is a 'live' document, and we will update this as we enhance and refine our practice, therefore we recommend that you check this link periodically.

We remain committed to supporting all families with access to hardware and data package. If you would like to discuss the loan of a school laptop or wish to avail yourself of a free data SIM. Then please email Mrs. Erika Anders on:

AndersE@Mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

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.

Spring 1 reports

Please be aware that we will not be sending home our usual Spring 1 reports this half term and have opted to run parents evenings for children in our Primary Section and fortnightly 1 to 1 meetings for tutors and pupils in our Senior Section. When the Government clarifies the programme for reopening schools fully, we will review and republish our parents evenings schedule. As always, if you have any concerns about your child's progress in school please contact their Head of House (senior section) or their class teacher (primary section).

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 18 January

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!

Thank you for today's online teaching it was really good. Appreciate the teething problems, but people will soon get used to the software etc. Appreciate your efforts!

Thank you to everyone's hard work, it's such awful times. Girls and M are pulling through whilst I am in and out for work. Both girls love being at home, but also enjoying best of both worlds. Both girls so look forward to sessions so much. Em continues to read and El is on her last book of Percy Jackson which she is super excited about. Em's asked to record her reading for Mrs Guy and I will try and attach it to the PM message. Em commented about Mrs Guy's teaching and thinks she is a lovely teacher.

R said it was "awesome and excellent". She is in Keyworker School with Mrs Davis and she loves the provision. The only thing she said would improve it is if you and his friends were there too.

Mrs Guy, firstly thank you for all your hard work, making school still work even it is remotely. I know from running Brownies on zoom the challenge of making activities suitable for doing online and individually. B enjoys seeing everyone's face and is very animated during the online sessions. Would it be possible to set us project work before lunch that can be done in there own time. Saying that they both like the story so please keep that!!

I just want to say what an amazing job all the teachers are doing, but especially year 2 teachers home learning has been amazing, so well organised. I honestly could not thank you all enough. This is such a worrying, anxious time, but with the learning you are providing for the children, it's one less thing to worry about. Also, E has been so happy every day and not worried about covid once this time around, where as last year she was so anxious and that is just down to all you amazing teachers and the support she has had.

I am hoping this will be a nice way to start your Friday morning. We just wanted to take the time to thank you for all the care, compassion and consideration you have given over the past couple of weeks. I can't imagine how hard it must be for you guys, but now working in a school myself, I'm aware how much planning and work that goes into all that you do. We as a family really appreciate the kws as it has given a sense of normality amongst all the turmoil. You are always there each day welcoming and kind. L and A are coming home happy each evening and it's made us feel so much more reassured, as

you know it's not an easy decision to know the best thing to do at the moment. We truly appreciate everything you are doing. Thank you again and we hope you and your families continue to stay safe.

Thank you to all the staff and teachers and I understand your need to keep kws to a minimum number of children.

I just wanted to say how grateful we are that you have kindly facilitated a place for G at school this time. This week, the 2 days made such a difference to G's wellbeing, he came home so happy and meant we could both fulfil our work commitments. We'd also like to thank you and the staff working tirelessly in school and online running home school, we appreciate everything you are doing, it must be exhausting.

The work that has been supplied and put online for the children has been brilliant.

I just wanted to send a quick message to thank you for all that you are doing with the home learning. It's so clear how hard this all is and I can see how hard you are working to make it happen. I really is enjoying being in the smaller groups on a Monday afternoon and I feel he is more keen to play an active role in that lesson. He really enjoyed the creative writing test and felt very proud of his work. Thank you again for all that you are doing and hope you are not going totally mad talking at your laptop all day!

Sorry I meant to email you last night. I just wanted to thank you for all you are doing with the home learning. Clearly a really very very testing task! A really loved being in that smaller group yesterday and also being able to see your face, I think she finds it hard at times responding to a voice. Thank you again, it's so clear to see how hard you are all working and how tricky this whole situation is for everyone.

I have D in year 9 and B in year 6. I would just like to say a big thank you to all the teachers that are helping the home schooling run smoothly. Mr Newsam has been a massive help with B from needing reassurance with work he's doing or lost internet connection and emailing the work over. It's a very strange time for everyone at the moment especially the children, but having the help of the teachers trying to keep them with some sort of routine. Thank you for all your help, time and commitment

Our staff find the feedback really motivating. If you would like to share more 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. Please contact Mrs Helen Patis patis@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk if you have not yet been able to log onto your SIMS parent app.

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>

A more detailed timeline for the routine testing of senior pupils will be made available to parents when we are informed of the date for the wider reopening of schools.

Instrumental Music Lessons

For pupils who normally receive instrumental lessons from one of our peripatetic teachers, you will be receiving either a letter inviting you to join online lessons run by Portsmouth Music hub, a link to some video resources to work through or an invite to a teams meeting for an online lesson. All engagements for this half term will be free of charge and your child will continue their live lessons on their return to school. If you no longer wish to continue with these lessons please inform;

Juniors- lewisj@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Seniors- firthj@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Head of Seniors (Miss. Louise Hillier)

Theme of the week: Young Carers

Once more, thank you to all of you who are keeping your children at home with you. The pupils at home are getting exactly the same diet of lessons as those in school- they are not missing out in anyway. I have been delighted with the engagement in online lessons- overall and in all the lessons I have managed to drop in to. Staff are working very hard to engage pupils- with lots of targeted questions. Some pupils are finding that the work has become more difficult- that is because we are moving on to new content so pupils are “doing things they haven’t done before”. All our staff are working hard to make sure that there is support for pupils- I have seen staff staying online to offer support on particular questions, I have seen signposting to extra support in terms of links and I have seen staff gauging understanding through polls and comments in the chat. Although we are all getting used to the new technology, the development of new learning and structuring for success is no different online to in a classroom so the staff are highly skilled at it. If your child is struggling- encourage them to be resilient and give it a go.

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 previously 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)

It has been a real pleasure to drop into so many online lessons this week. I have heard some great reading from year 3 and was also very impressed with the year 6 pupils learning how to produce an effective mind map to help them remember key information about the respiratory system. The teachers have amazed me with their ability to find some really great ways to engage the children whilst not actually being with them. This has helped to ensure that the pupils both in school and out of school get exactly the same experience each day. The ability of our families to adapt to the current challenges has really impressed me and each week I look forward to seeing all of your news via the Celebration Assembly.

Whilst pupils are at home or in key worker provision, it is very important for them to keep active in order to help them with their own mental health. Exercise can really help with sleep too! Mr Reid's weekly challenge is currently on week three with week four being released on Monday. Do keep an eye out on the school Instagram account and let us know how you are all getting on. Photos of the children taking part can be sent to: reid@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk. We will celebrate the children's achievements through our Friday Celebration Assembly.

It is very important that parents and pupils are engaging with us over this period of lockdown. Please do email your child's class teacher if you have any concerns. We will be writing to the parents of pupils who have not engaged with us in order to check on their well-being so please do respond to any emails or calls from the school if you are able to.

Head of Pre-school and Nursery

We will continue with the theme 'Winter' for one more week, then the topic will change to 'Dinosaurs'.

In class we have been looking at textures, shape, and form, manipulating various media and materials to achieve their planned effect. Through these activities the children were able to articulate their own ideas and extend their own learning through asking questions.

Learning intentions linked to class subject:

- Take part in a Winter walk, discuss what they see, hear, smell, and touch.
- Create Ice hangings for observing throughout the day looking at cause and effect.

Letter sound in class is 'N' - I do enjoy looking at the work the children create.

Words on the word wall in class are 'It' 'I' 'A' and 'In'. You will find these in your High Frequency Word Booklet.

Parents' evening will now be in February sorry about the delay.

Finally, a gentle reminder, please can you clearly label all your children's items of clothing to prevent these items going home with the wrong child.