

HT Message

I am pleased to confirm that over the last seven days we have had no reported cases of COVID 19 amongst our pupils or staff. Consequently, we are now fully staffed in all sections of the school and the atmosphere around the building is very focussed.

However! We must be wary of being complacent and I would ask that all parents of pupils in our Senior Section **check** that your child has all their essential equipment each day:

- Black pen and pencil plus spares;
- Purple pen for feedback;
- Glue stick;
- 30cm Ruler and an eraser;
- CASIO Fx Series calculator;
- Water bottle;
- Face covering plus spare;
- Reading book (for Years 7 and 8).

Please remind them of the importance of “hands, face, space” and, most importantly, we observe these rules to slow the spread, to protect the most vulnerable and stop our NHS from being overwhelmed.

In terms of our Primary Section, we have reorganised our extracurricular programme to reduce the number of ‘close contacts’ that children might have and therefore from January 2021, all after school clubs will run within year groups only. Sign up for clubs goes live at 6:00pm on the following dates:

Year R	Monday 7th December
Year 1 and 2	Tuesday 8th December
Year 3 and 4	Wednesday 9th December
Year 5 and 6	Thursday 10th December
Year 7 and 8	Friday 11th December

The system will close at 6.00pm on Monday 14th December for all year groups. A summary of the school’s EC programme can be found [here](#).

Please note that we are running a number of ‘catch up’ clubs for targeted children within our Primary Section. Children who have been selected to attend one of these 'catch up' clubs have automatically been enrolled and we ask these parents and carers to support us by not removing them from a ‘catch up’ club.

Also, we have extended the school day for Year 4, 5 and 6 children as follows:

Year 4	finish at 4:30pm every Thursday
Year 5	finish at 4:30pm every Wednesday
Year 6	finish at 4:30pm every Monday

Children in these year groups will be automatically enrolled into extra-curricular PE on these days.

If you have any questions about 'catch up' clubs or the extended school day, please email:

For Year R, 1 and 2 Mrs. Jo Buck on BuckJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
For Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Miss. Jen Lewis on LewisJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

For more general comments about our extracurricular programme, please email Mrs. Jude Firth on:

FlrthJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Please be aware that we will be offering a traditional Christmas Dinner for all pupils in Year R, 1 and 2 on Wednesday 16th December – there is no charge for this.

Pupils in Years 3 to 11 will be able to purchase a meal for £2.15 and this will be available on Thursday 17th December.

Caterlink have asked us to make you aware that their parent and carer survey is due to close shortly, there is still time to offer any feedback:

To share your views on Primary meals, click [here](#)

To share your views on Senior meals, click [here](#)

Finally, please be aware that the final day of this half term is Friday 18th December. The school will close at 12:35pm and there will be no extracurricular or teatime clubs available.

Head of Seniors (Miss. Louise Hillier)

Week beginning 7th December is : Week A

The Theme of the Week is : Importance of Charity

Well done to all of our Years 8, 9 and 10 pupils who accessed their online learning well this week. I would like to thank all the staff who delivered these sessions as well- I know for some this is a very new and rather scary experience, but they have risen to the occasion very well. We are pleased that we have most of our staff back in school now, so we are looking forward to things reverting to the new normal.

To keep our community as safe as possible we do expect Senior pupils to wear a face covering on arrival at school and whenever they are inside the building- we do not currently require pupils to wear a mask in a classroom. We all want to be healthy for Christmas so if you could please remind your child of this and ensure they arrive at school with a face covering every day I would be most grateful.

Students in our Senior section will be beginning to study sex and relationships education units in their PSHE/CPR lessons. Letters outlining the content have been sent out via the SIMS parent app and are available to view on our website in the 'Communications from Us' section [here](#). Please send any questions regarding these lessons to Miss Colmer on colmer-rachael@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Over the Christmas holiday it is really important that both Years 10 and 11 are revising-ready for the mock exams and Mayfields in January. They know how to put together a suitable revision timetable and have been taught the skills of revision. Information on this is available on our website [here](#). If you have any questions about supporting your child with their revision, then please contact their tutor in the first instance. A full list of tutors is on our website [here](#).

Internet safety is always high on our list of priorities for our pupils. As parents, please check your children's phones and other devices and ask them who they are communicating with. There is too often a harrowing story in the press about young people who are groomed, unfortunately often resulting in sad consequences. Regularly checking apps and messages-including contacts on Xbox and Playstation is so important- if your child doesn't know the person in real life then please think very carefully about why they know them virtually. If you have any concerns and would like us to support you then the best person to contact initially would be Mrs John on john@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk who will then deal with your query or pass it to the most appropriate person.

As we look to the end of term and approaching Christmas there are a number of things happening in school. Firstly, each house is making a collection of food bank donations which should be taken to the House office by 11th December. These will help to make Christmas better for some of our community. Thank you for your support with this. Additionally, on Friday 18th December all staff and pupils are able to wear a Christmas jumper over their school shirts if they wish- a jolly end to a tricky term.

Head of Primary (Mrs. Fiona Rogers)

This week, we have been learning how to do our 12 days of Christmas sign language actions for our whole school video. We look forward to seeing the final result!

Today we have welcomed back Danube class who have been working hard in their online learning. A big thank you to the staff and parents who have supported this and helped out with any minor technical issues!

We say goodbye to Mrs Shaw who has done a fantastic job of teaching Coral class this term and we welcome Mr J Bachelor to our year 5 team. Mr Bachelor will be teaching Coral class full time and is very much looking forward to working with the children.

Next week we are looking forward to completing the year 2 phonics screening test and wish all of year 2 good luck with this.

It has been really lovely to see the children making use of our new playground equipment this week. The children have been very responsible with this and we owe a big thank you to Friends of Mayfield who have helped provide this for us. We would also like to thank everyone who has donated

books/toys/games/puzzles/magazines to our “wet playtime” resources. Please think of us if you are having a pre or post Christmas clear out.

Next week children are able to bring their Christmas cards to school. Due to quarantining, these must be in the post box by Friday 11th December and will be given out to pupils in the final week of term.

On Friday 18th December pupils will be able to wear a Christmas jumper to school in lieu of the blazer. Please do not feel that you need to go out and buy a new jumper. We are looking forward to seeing the creative designs the children have come up with.

Please note that on the last day of term, the children will be having their lunch at 12pm before they leave at 12.35pm so please make sure that you have either ordered a hot lunch or that pupils have their packed lunch with them.

Finally, we apologise for the delay receiving school photos. Mrs Manns has confirmed with the company that all paid orders should arrive over the coming week. If you are still waiting for proofs, please email Mrs Manns (Manns@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk) with your child's name and class.

Head of Pre-school and Nursery

Our topic will continue with the theme ‘Christmas’. We are still discovering how families from around the world celebrate the festive season.

The pre-school Nativity is being held on Thursday 10th December all children are to be at school for 9am. Please don't forget to send your child into school wearing white t-shirt and black or grey trousers - girls can wear black leggings. There will be no afternoon session on that day, so children are to be collected at 12 o'clock unless they attend all day then normal collection time remains in place.

Don't forget you can order a DVD of the performance, Mrs Plowman, will take your order, or you can send a text into school. The cost of the DVD will be £5.00, raising funds to buy new equipment.

The Christmas shop will be open from the 7th December to allow children to pick their gifts for the family. There will be no reading books going home this week, but I have set homework for over the holiday period.

Could you please create a memory book together as a family and include family photographs, drawings, certificates all your children's favourite things and we at school could then add contributions to their book, this will promote literacy, speech, handwriting and lots more. This is part of the Hungry Little Minds Campaign, they have a fantastic website with lots of ideas for you to do at home with your children. It has other educational links to support phonics, reading, writing and many more subjects.

Finally, the last day of term will be Friday 18th December. We will have a Christmas Party for the children on the last day of term, this will be from 10am till 1pm children can wear whatever they want. The tickets for the party will cost £2.00 and this will go towards food and fundraising. School will be closed at 1pm.

