

HT Message – Mr. David Jeapes

I would like to highlight the work of the “Friends of Mayfield” - this is a group of like-minded volunteers who wish to help organise a number of school events such as the Summer Fete and Quiz Nights. Not only do these raise funds for the school – but they also provide great opportunities for members of the school community to meet. The time commitment can be as little (or as much) as you can spare. To find out more about supporting our PTA, then please email the Chair of the FOM, on:

FirthJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

One of the key areas they help families is through the operation of a pre-loved uniform shop. If you have any good quality, clean, items of uniform you wish to donate, then please drop these off to the Main Reception as part of your ‘daily exercise’ - thank you!

Please remember that as part of our COVID risk assessment, pupils in our Senior Section are required to bring the following equipment into school daily:

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

We have produced a cost-effective equipment pack containing most of the above 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

By now, it is likely your child has generated lots of work at home. Please do encourage them to keep this safe and when your child returns to school, please ask them to bring this work in for assessment by their teachers – staff won’t be able to formally mark every piece but will appreciate the overview of what learning has been undertaken.

As previously shared with you, in line with the DfE’s guidance, Mayfield will be fully closed to all pupils including those of ‘critical workers’ and children considered ‘vulnerable’ during the half term break. However, we are required by the Government to keep tracking and tracing ‘close contacts’ of positive cases within our school community over the half-term holidays. This is because, if your child tests positive for COVID 19 over the holidays, it is likely that they will have been infectious in school for the final days of the half-term and therefore we will need to advise all children who are ‘close contacts’ to self-isolate.

Therefore, it is important that we are informed of any pupils who have been attending our in-school provision who return a positive test in the half-term holidays. This can be reported to the school by:

- emailing the school on General@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk or
- telephone the school on 02392 693432 and choose extension 236 to leave a message on our absence reporting line.

Staff members will then begin to identify any 'close contacts' and communicate with relevant families. If your child does show symptoms of COVID, then you should book a test using the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Please be aware that we will continue to offer remote learning and onsite provisions as we have done throughout the Spring 1 half term until at least Friday 5th March. When a final decision is made around the school fully reopening, we will, of course, communicate this with you at the earliest opportunity, including our plans for running extracurricular activities.

INSET Days 2020 – 2021

Given the significant disruption that we have all endured, we have taken the decision to postpone our planned INSET day on Friday 12th February. Therefore, on this day, remote and onsite provisions will continue as normal. I can confirm that the remaining INSET days will now take place on Wednesday 21st July, Thursday 22nd July, and Friday 23rd July. This means that the last day for pupils to attend school during the Summer Term will be Tuesday 20th July. Staff will use this time to decant from the current building to our new school, ready for a September opening.

Job opportunities

Please be aware of the following posts which have been advertised nationally:

2 x Assistant Headteacher;
Assistant Quality Leader for Mathematics and Computing;
Teacher of RE;
Teacher of Spanish;
Teacher of Science;
Teacher of Primary (KS1 or 2).

All the above for an April, June, or September start. Additionally, we have the following support staff roles with an immediate start date:

Facilities Manager

Full details can be found on our website. Please alert potential candidates by sharing the above on your social media networks – Thank you!

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 their third set of vouchers to their registered email address from the Edenred platform. 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

Portsmouth City Council is providing vouchers to cover the half-term holidays. These vouchers will be worth £15 per eligible child and will be sent out towards the end of next week through the Edenred platform.

Please do check your 'junk' box and 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.

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

It is the government's intention that all senior section pupils will be tested for Covid-19 in our school's Testing Facility before the wider reopening of schools. Each pupil will be tested twice, 3-5 days apart. It is essential that all parents with children 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.

Early Teatime Club Option

From Monday 1st February, there will be the option of booking an Early Teatime Club slot from 3.00 - 4.30pm. Places will cost £4.50 per child and can be booked through the Scopay system. The Early Teatime Club option has been introduced to support the key workers who are struggling to get to school in time for the end of the day at 3.00pm. This option will be available until our normal Extra-Curricular provision restarts.

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)

Yet again this week I have enjoyed dipping into many of our online teaching sessions- and continue to be so very impressed by the high standard of delivery and the great participation levels of pupils. Thank you for all you do to support your children and our staff with this.

On Thursday 11th February, all of Year 10 will be taking part in a virtual Apprenticeship Bus event during period 1 on Teams. This will be delivered by a company called ASK. We would love all of our Year 10 to get involved in this so please could you ask your child to make sure they check their emails for details of how to get involved. Miss. Colmer is running the event so if you have any questions about this, or any aspect of careers, please contact her by email on colmer-rachael@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Please do remember that if you have any questions or concerns, or just want to say thank you for something, the House teams are available on the email addresses below:

Discovery@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Victory@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Intrepid@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Endeavour@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Head of Primary (Mrs. Fiona Rogers)

As we come to the end of this half term, we will be saying farewell to Mrs. Kerry Jonkers in year 2. Mrs. Jonkers and her family will be relocating over half term. We wish them all the very best of luck for the future.

For those of you who are supporting children with online learning from home, please can I ask that you make sure that you either contact your child's class teacher by email or the school absence line on 02392 693432 ext. 236 or 07908 676745 if on any day your child is not well enough to participate in the learning.

If you are having a post-Christmas clear out of toys/games/books, please keep us in mind! We would love to have your donations which can be dropped to the main reception as part of your daily exercise. Any items will be quarantined for a minimum of 72 hours.

Finally, if your child is currently attending Key Worker School, please ensure that they adhere to our usual uniform standards. Pupils must wear a blazer and a tie and must have black polishable shoes. Please email Mrs. J Buck on buckj@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk or Miss. J Lewis on lewisj@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk if you have any concerns over uniform.

Head of Pre-school and Nursery

Our topic will continue with Chinese New Year Celebrations. It's the year of the Ox. A person born this year will have a happy and successful life. New Year Celebrations will fall on Friday 12th February. Looking at the Chinese New Year our children will gain an awareness that some people have a different culture, belief, traditions, and we treat everyone with respect.

Learning Intentions linked to class subject:

- Express and communicate their ideas.
- Construct with a purpose in mind.
- Recreate simple patterns.
- Use different writing implements to write numbers in Chinese writing 1- 10.

Letter sound in class is 'P'.

We have added two more words to our word wall, they are: 'Was' and 'We'.

On Friday, the 12th of February will shall be having Chinese food to celebrate the New Year at snack time. Can you confirm that your children can take part in the food tasting?

Finally thank you for supporting the snack provision, you can donate fruit if you would prefer or a small cash donation up to £1.00 if you can.