

## **HT Message**

I would like to start by asking that you alert any friends or family members to our first open day video - "a welcome from the Headteacher" is now published on our Instagram account. A link can be found [here](#).

If you are aware of anyone considering joining Mayfield in Years R, 3 or 7 – then please direct them to this link. Thank you.

Please remember that if your child is currently in Year 2 or 6, then they will automatically join Year 3 and 7 respectively – no further action is required.

We have taken the decision that to minimise risk to parents, pupils and staff, the upcoming Primary Parents evening scheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> October will run virtually. Please sign up for these as normal using the online booking system. We have published a guide to explain how the video function works, which can be found [here \(On Whole School Postings\)](#). If you are unable to access this system – please email your class teacher who can offer either an email update on your child's progress or a phone call. A full list of class teachers can be found [here](#).

With the 'short' days approaching we actively encourage every pupil to wear a brightly coloured jacket to and from school every day. Also, please be aware that we still have available a number of school lockers that any Senior Section pupil can hire by contacting our Finance Officer, Mrs. Steph Manns [manns@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:manns@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk).

I have received a lot of feedback around the flow of traffic at drop off and pick up times. I am in communication with Portsmouth City Council to seek support with the management of cars and parking. In the meantime, I would ask that parents/carers:

- Consider walking to school, if at all possible;
- Respect highway markings such as double yellow lines and 'zig zags'.

In particular, please do not pull up in the middle of Mayfield Road to drop off – this is particularly dangerous and likely to result in an accident.

To help you plan your time, we have provided a list of key dates for the Autumn 1 half term [HERE](#).

## **Head of Senior (Miss. Hillier)**

### **Theme of the Week: Reflection: Our place in the world**

#### **Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> October is a Week A**

Another week completed and some great successes across the board. Mr Currier has been delighted by some extremely talented linguists (link on website to Twitter) and the Performing Arts department have been celebrating some very encouraging dance and music performances. Well done to all the pupils who are coming into school every day and working to the very best of their ability.

Looking ahead, Year 11 pupils come back after half-term to mocks in Mathematics, English and Science. They will receive a copy of the timetable next week. We have talked to the pupils about how important it is to do well in their mocks so hopefully they are already revising at home. As we now have just Year 11 tutor groups, we are able to devote a lot of time to reminding them of revision techniques and also asking them for evidence that they have been revising. It is really important they

are in school for all their exams. The mock exams give the pupils an opportunity to reflect on what they can do and what they need to work on. It is also very helpful for their teachers to target their support in lessons to ensure they are fully prepared for the final GCSE exams. If you or your child have any questions/concerns about their revision or any questions/concerns about the exam process, then please contact Mrs Head on [head@mayfield.portsmouth.sc.uk](mailto:head@mayfield.portsmouth.sc.uk).

Years 7 and 8 are working on their Autumn 1 Prep projects. Details of these are on our website [here](#). They should have deadlines for each subject in their planners so please have a look and support them in meeting these. If you have any questions regarding the individual projects, please contact the Subject Leader for the project concerned. Mathematics, Science, English and Spanish set homework outside of the Prep projects and set homework "little and often"- most lessons. Again, if you have any questions about homework in these subjects please contact the Subject Leader in the first instance.

The vast majority of our pupils arrive to school every day on time, but a few pupils need to look at their timekeeping. To allow time for handwashing, to minimise the Covid risk, it would be very much appreciated if Year 7 and 8 pupils could be at school by 8:10am at the latest- preferably 8:05am and Years 9, 10 and 11 pupils by 8:40am- preferably by 8:35am. I stand on the gate most days and encourage some of our tardier pupils to set their alarms a good 5 minutes earlier every morning! Thank you for your support with this.

Finally, can I remind you that long hair (anything that is below the shoulder) needs to be tied up. Hair accessories should be black or dark blue. The only jewellery permitted is a single stud earring in each ear lobe. All other jewellery must be removed for school. Thank you for your support with this.

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

We have had another lovely week in Primary with some excellent, focused work taking place. All children took part in the Diana Award Big Anti-Bullying assembly 2020 which has had some very positive feedback and allowed us to use our Reflective Learning Superpowers to think about how we can "Bee Kind" to others. Our Wednesday virtual music assembly has also been particularly popular again with children being excited to see Mr Ralls taking part in a Chariots of Fire film!

We have the first Virtual Parents Evenings of the year on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October from 4.00 till 7.00pm. These are very important meetings when you have the opportunity to look at your child's books, talk to their teacher and set targets for the year ahead. The Parents Evenings are taking place online via the online booking system and each appointment last for 10 minutes. Please make sure that you have booked your child's appointment via the online booking system.

We are now midway through the half-term and we have been focussing on the Learning Superpower of being 'Ready'. This means that we are encouraging the children to focus on developing good learning habits that will help them succeed for the rest of the year.



You can help your child to show that they are ready for success by encouraging them to read at least five times per week at home. Please can parents in the Infant Section record the reading that has been done at home in the planner. Children in the Juniors are able to record their own reading. I hope that your child is also making good progress with their Prep project for this half-term. Details of Prep can be found in your child's planner. Please email your child's class teacher if you need any help or support with these projects.

Sadly, we are unable to attend celebrate Harvest Festival in our usual way. However, children will be taking part in a virtual assembly and we would be delighted if you were able to donate any non-perishable food products to us which will be shared with the local food bank. Further information will follow next week. Please keep an eye on your SIMS parent app and social media.

We encourage outdoor play during social times and so would ask that you send your child into school with a coat each day.

Finally, please can I remind you that if your child is in year 3-6 and having a packed lunch, the lunch must adhere to the school packed lunch policy which can be found [here](#).

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

Our topic will continue with the theme 'Autumn'. We shall be discussing how the leaves on the trees are beginning to change colour and why these changes occur.

Learning intentions linked to class subject:

- Show an interest and gain an awareness of the changes in the natural world;
- Collect and identify leaves;
- Use natural materials to create a desired effect;
- Create artwork using Autumn colours.

As we play outside daily, please send your children into school with their coat. Can I also remind you to label all items of clothing and school uniform to prevent these items going home with the wrong children?

If your children are staying for lunch, please do not send anything in their lunch box which may contain nuts or traces of nuts. We are a nut free setting as is Mayfield School. If you go onto [www.bbcgoodfood.com](http://www.bbcgoodfood.com) or [Change4Life](http://Change4Life), they have lots of lovely ideas for nut free lunches.

The letter sound is 'B'. Could you please create a collage with your children and return to class for Thursday – we use the children's work to promote speech sounds. We have received some lovely creations for the letter 'A' and the children are proud to share their work with others at circle time.

Homework will be going home and will be linked to the class topic.

Finally, thank you for your contributions towards the snack provision. Have a lovely weekend!