

## **Mayfield Messenger – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

Welcome to the fourth “Mayfield Messenger” since the partial school closure was announced.

I would like to start by welcoming any new subscribers to our various channels of communication. This week, 90 new children were allocated to our Primary Section. Once again, I am delighted to report that we remained as popular as ever with over 5 applications per place making us one of the most oversubscribed schools in Portsmouth. On behalf of all of us at Mayfield, I would like to say “Thank you” for placing your trust in us and rest assured that we will work tirelessly to ensure your child is happy, well supported and ready for the next steps in their life. Next week, the Heads of School will be writing to each new family to formally welcome them to Mayfield. Equally, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact them via email on:

For entry into Year R email Mrs. Jo Buck, Head of Infants on [BuckJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:BuckJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

For entry into Year 3 email Miss. Jen Lewis, Head of Juniors on [LewisJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:LewisJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

Please rest assured that we are planning a number of events to ensure you and your child have a smooth transition into our school. As we get more information about when and how we can run these events, we will be in touch!

As you are no doubt aware, the Government have extended the period of lockdown “for at least a further three weeks”. Therefore, I can formally confirm that Mayfield remains open only to “Key Workers” and vulnerable pupils. The message to our local community remains the same:

“The Government expects most children and their families to stay home and be safe. The key worker school @ Mayfield is open to the children of key workers or those considered vulnerable only if they cannot be safely looked after at home”.

Eligible parents and carers can sign up for this provision using our online booking system – this is the same system you will have used to book a place for a parents evening or extra-curricular club. Following feedback from parents and carers we have split each day into sessions as follows:

07:45 to 08:45	Breakfast Club
08:45 to 13:00*	Session 1
08:45 to 15:00*	Session 2
08:45 to 16:30**	Session 3
16:30 to 18:00	Tea Time Club (Primary aged “Key Worker” children only and chargeable)

\*A free hot lunch is served between 12:00pm and 1:00pm.

\*\*This session is run by “Pompey in the Community” and involves outdoor sports

The booking system will close at 9:00 am on the working day beforehand and parents or carers can opt for as many full or part days as are needed. Children can be collected at the end of session 1, 2 or 3. Pupils will still be expected to wear their full school uniform and bring a PE kit if they are taking part in Session 3. If you have any questions about this provision, then please email us on:

[kws@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:kws@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

The move away from food hampers to providing families with a £15 per week shopping voucher has proved very successful. Currently, over 90% of eligible families have applied for this and we are actively engaging with the remaining 10%. Vouchers will be sent out automatically every Monday to the email address we were provided with. Please do check these have not arrived to your “junk” folder. If you have any questions about shopping vouchers then please contact Mr. Matt Stedman, Director of Business Operations on:

[StedmanM@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:StedmanM@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

We are mindful that several families’ financial circumstances will have changed due to the current pandemic and that they may now be eligible for a shopping voucher. If you believe your circumstances have changed then please complete an application form on the Portsmouth City Council website by following this link:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/schools-learning-and-childcare/schools/school-meals>

If you need help accessing this link, or have any questions about this. Please email our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs. Erika Anders on [AndersE@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:AndersE@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

From Monday 20th April we will be changing how home learning is set and updating our website weekly with new work packs for each year group. We will also offer some guidance as to the amount of time we think pupils should be spending on their home learning, as well as ideas about exercise and other non-curriculum activities. These packs will be released every Monday morning - please keep an eye on the school’s Facebook page and website for alerts as to when these tasks “go live”.

Please note that these packs have been designed so that you do not have to print them. However, we will assume that you have access to the internet through a laptop, tablet or mobile phone to access tasks and age appropriate online learning sites. If this is not the case for you, then please contact Mrs Buck (Infant Section), Miss Lewis (Junior Section) or your child's Head of House (Senior Section):

Years R, 1 and 2	Head of Infants (Mrs. Jo Buck) <a href="mailto:BuckJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk">BuckJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk</a>
Years 3, 4 and 5	Head of Juniors (Miss. Jen Lewis) <a href="mailto:LewisJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk">LewisJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk</a>
Discovery House	Head of Discovery (Miss. Jo Webb) <a href="mailto:Webb@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk">Webb@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk</a>
Intrepid House	Head of Intrepid (Miss. Jess Jones) <a href="mailto:Jonesj1@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk">Jonesj1@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk</a>
Victory House	Head of Victory (Mr. Phil Denford) <a href="mailto:DenfordP@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk">DenfordP@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk</a>
Endeavour House	Head of Endeavour (Mr. James Campbell) <a href="mailto:CampbellJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk">CampbellJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk</a>

We understand now that schools will not be required to submit to the Department for Education any primary school assessments such as the early years foundation stage profile, phonics testing or KS1 SATs. However, it is clear that we will need to ensure that teacher assessments are recorded so that any “gaps” pupils may have can be “filled”. I would like to reassure you that our staff are now planning on how this important information can be best captured and appropriately shared with pupils, parents or carers.

For parents or carers of pupils in Year 11 only, we can confirm:

- Teachers will be asked to use their professional judgement to produce a grade for each pupil they teach;
- Within each grade, teachers will be asked to numerically rank the pupils within that grade;
- Judgements will be based on a wide range of sources including mock grades, coursework, classwork, homework and the progress the child has made to date;

- The school will ensure an internal moderation process is undertaken;
- No further work needs to be set or collected in to support a teacher's judgement;
- Individual grades or the rank within these grades **cannot** be shared with pupils or their families.

If you have any questions about how we are managing external assessment, then please do contact Mrs. Gayle Head on:

[Head@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:Head@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

Our preparations around the reopening of the school are now well in hand. We are actively looking at how we can operate our school whilst also protecting staff and pupils from the risk of infection. As our plans develop, I will, of course, share these with you.

As you can imagine, many children and families who were already vulnerable will face even greater pressures and challenges during this pandemic. Moreover, some families that were previously coping are finding themselves now struggling - financially, emotionally and with practical every day issues. As a school we have developed a contact system to enable a 'watchful eye' on our vulnerable children and families - both those we know already, plus families that we are aware are 'made vulnerable' by the pandemic. Should you become worried about a child or family who may be vulnerable, or if you have a safeguarding concern, please pass any information to Mrs. Erika Anders on the email address above.

I would like to finish by wishing you and your wider family good health and urge you to please contact us if you need any type of support. These are challenging times, but together, we will get through this.

Yours sincerely,

David Jeapes

Headteacher