

## MAYFIELD MESSENGER

### HT Message

The atmosphere around school remains very focussed and calm. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the parents and carers of pupils in our Senior Section who have supported us by ensuring that all pupils in Year 7 to 11 come to school wearing a face covering (unless exempt) with their essential equipment packs ready for inspection. I would ask that all parents and carers encourage children to bring disposable tissues so that the "catch it, bin it, kill it" approach can be used by all pupils and also a water bottle – we are not giving out disposable cups.

I am equally grateful to parents and carers within our Primary Section for your support with drop off and pick up routines. Please do remember that:

- Dogs must not be brought onto the school site – even if **carried**;
- Our gates close at 8:45am sharp;
- Parking restrictions operate on Mayfield Road and must be observed – it is particularly dangerous to stop in the street to allow your child to 'hop out'.

Please remember, if your child is presenting symptoms of COVID 19 then you should not send them into school and reference to Public Health England's advice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection#:~:text=If%20you%20have%20symptoms%20of,you%20have%20COVID%2D19>

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

**\*\*\*\*\*School closed on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October for staff training\*\*\*\*\***

Head of Senior (Miss. L Hillier)

**Week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> September is a Week A**

**Theme for the week is: Respect and Tolerance in the community BLM**

The first full week of the Academic Year is complete, and pupils have settled back into school really well. The changes we have made to minimise the risk to all the members of our school community do mean that things are different. I saw a quote on social media recently that said, "The pandemic isn't over just because you're over it", and I think it is already important that we remember this. Nobody enjoys wearing a face covering, it isn't fun to have to stay in one area and not mingle with siblings or friends in other years, but we have to do this. Could I ask for your support please in ensuring that you send your child to school every day with a face covering and reminding them to follow our rules to help to keep everybody as safe as possible - thank you very much in anticipation of your cooperation.

Next Thursday we have a virtual "Meet the tutor" evening where you can say hello to your child's tutor. Usually we only do this for Year 7 but as so many of our pupils have changed tutor this year, we have extended to all. The tutors look forward to meeting you on that evening.

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 should be working on their Autumn 1 Prep projects. Year 8 are fully aware of our system and will be well into them. Details of the projects are on our website [here](#). Any questions about Prep should be addressed to the Subject Leader of the subject about which there is a question but any general questions about Prep should be addressed to your child's Head of House.

We do have a number of lockers available in school for pupils to hire. The cost is £2 a term or £6 for the year. Any pupil interested in hiring a locker should see Mr Backhouse in the general office. He can be contacted on [backhoused@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:backhoused@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

Please remind your children that we do not permit any jewellery other than a single stud earring in the lobe of the ear and a wristwatch. Other jewellery is not permitted and will be confiscated if it is seen. Thank you for your support in this.

### Head of Primary (Mrs F Rogerris)

It has been another excellent week for the Primary section. The morning routine is now well embedded, and it is a pleasure to see the children starting their learning promptly at 8.45am with "Skills Drills".

As part of our virtual lessons programme, Mr Ralls has been leading our music assembly on a Wednesday. This week we listened to music played on the didgeridoo which we thoroughly enjoyed!

Every Friday is celebration assembly for the Primary section where we celebrate:

- Birthdays for the coming week;
- Star of the week;
- Tidiest corridor and classroom;
- Achievement points;
- Learning superpowers.

We also like to celebrate our pupils' achievements outside of school. If your child would like to share this, please email their class teacher with the details, and include a photo if you are happy for this to be shared.

Please can I remind parents that pupils must be in school ready to start lessons at 8.45am when the gates will be closed, and pupils will need to enter through the main reception and will be marked late.

If you need to speak to the school, your first point of contact should be the class teacher via

email. Email addresses for teachers can be found [here](#).

Finally, please can I remind you that children cannot be picked up by school age siblings. We also require passwords from anyone who is going to be picking up pupils that are not known to the school so please do not be offended if a member of staff asks for this.

### Head of Pre-school and Nursery

The children have settled into the school routine and have a better understanding of the class boundaries and routines in both the pre-school and nursery.

Topic will start from the 28<sup>th</sup> September and we will be learning about Autumn. We will be looking at natural materials and identifying features in the natural world. Homework will be going home regularly each week and will be linked to the class topic.

Finally, I would like to remind you to try and stay 2 meters apart while waiting outside to collect your children. Also, we are a nut free setting, so please check items that you include in your children's lunch box.