

Welcome to the sixth edition of the Mayfield Messenger since lockdown!

I would like to start by highlighting the “Flying Start Portsmouth” programme which is aimed for pupils in current Year 11. The purpose of this scheme is to help prepare our leavers for life after school, whatever route you are considering. I would strongly urge every family of a Year 11 pupil to spend some time engaging with this website. Additionally, pupils in Years 9 and 10 may well find the information on this website very useful.

I am pleased to confirm that the options process for Year 8 and 9 has now been completed. Mrs. Cleary will be in touch at the start of June to confirm the outcome of your choices. If you have any specific questions about this, then please do email her directly on:

ClearyA@mayfield.portsmorth.sch.uk

The number of pupils accessing our “Key Worker School @ Mayfield” is increasing. I would ask that every family has a sensitive discussion with their child about the essential behaviours that will become part of normal life going forward:

- Maintain social distancing;
- Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands with hot water and soap;
- Avoid touching your face.

I am pleased to confirm that our provision is open to the children of ‘key workers’ over the Friday 8th May Bank Holiday. Places on this may be reserved via the online booking system. I am very grateful to the staff members that have offered to run this.

As you are aware, speculation is rife around when and how schools will be “reopened”. The Secretary of State for Education, The Rt. Hon Gavin Williamson has stated that:

“All schools returning on day one with a full complement of pupils would not be realistic”

Obviously, we await further detail and a definite steer from Government, but it would appear that when the time comes to consider opening the school more widely, the following principles are likely to apply:

- the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff is paramount;
- movement around the building will be minimised;
- arrival, breaks and dismissal will be staggered;
- pupils who are closest to significant assessments will be prioritised;
- on site learning will be complimented with home learning;
- we will need to continue to offer “key worker” and vulnerable families daily provision.

A number of families have enquired about key events such as transition, parents evenings and the prom. I would like to reassure you that we are actively looking at how best to re-work these important events in light of the current restrictions and will be sharing more information with our community in the coming weeks.

I can however confirm that the process for selecting Prefects for Year 11 is now well underway. I would like to share with you that our staff have been very impressed with the calibre of applicant and letters confirming the outcome of the interview were posted yesterday (Thursday).

We know that many of you have been engaging with the home learning resources published each Monday and have been busy trying to juggle home school alongside your own home working and other family members. We know that this is a “big ask” but would like to reassure you that whatever home learning you are able to do will stand your child in good stead when they return to school.

One of the questions we have been asked is around how to check if your child’s learning is correct. Starting next week (11th May) we will be introducing tweaks to the home school learning to allow you and your child to check if they have they correct answers or have included the correct things in their work. Please rest assured, however, that staff will be working with your child when they return to school to check their understanding of what they have been set as home learning and misconceptions will be addressed then.

I appreciate that parents and carers may well be confused about who to contact if you have a question, concern or wish to pay us a compliment. So please find below some essential contact information:

Home Learning, general concerns and compliments:

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

Safeguarding concerns or questions about supporting SEN/vulnerable pupils:

AndersE@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Accessing shopping vouchers for children eligible for “Free School Meals”:

StedmanM@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Questions or concerns around external assessments including GCSE results:

Head@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Accessing or questions about key worker school:

kws@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Anything else:

Hollis@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Whilst September may seem a long way off, our school uniform supplier, Skoolkit have contacted us and have asked us to highlight:

“Currently there is free delivery from Skoolkit for any uniform orders placed online between May 4th and May 7th using the code: SKOOLKIT2020. Visit our website for details”

On this note, If parents are reorganising whilst at home, please save any uniform that your child has grown out of so that we can replenish our pre-loved uniform shop when safe to do so.

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>

Finally, I would like to wish 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