

HT Message

I hope you had a pleasant break over the February Half Term and welcome back to the Mayfield Messenger. I would like to draw your attention to the whole school letter which was posted on our website on 14th February. This has some important updates and a copy can be found [here](#).

I would like to reassure our whole community that we are monitoring closely the situation with respect to the COVID – 19 virus and the potential impact on the school and any trips. At the moment, the risk level is “moderate” and therefore it is “business as usual”. Consequently, all school activities including trips and visits are scheduled to take place. As the situation evolves, we will, of course, be in touch.

Our “pre-loved” uniform shop is becoming ever more popular. Please do consider donating any clean items of school uniform that you may have spare. This facility is run by the ‘Friends of Mayfield’ who raise funds for the little extras our budget cannot reach! The shop is open every Thursday between 3:30pm and 4:30pm.

School will be closed to all pupils on the following INSET and Decant Days with further dates announced by February 2021:

Friday 19 th June 2020
Thursday 3 rd September 2020
Friday 4 th September 2020
Monday 7 th September 2020
Thursday 8 th October 2020
Friday 27 th November 2020
Monday 18 th January 2021

To help our families plan their time, we have produced an extract of the school calendar containing all of the key dates for Spring 2. This can be downloaded [here](#).

Head of Seniors (Miss. Louise Hillier)

Week beginning 2nd March is a week A
Theme for the week is Fair Trade

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Year 8 Parents Evening on Thursday. Information on how to select options was given out on the night and this information can be found on our website [here](#). If you have any questions regarding the options process please contact Mrs Cleary on clearya@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Year 10 had an Interview Preparation Day on Thursday where we had a number of visitors in to support them. Thank you to all the members of the business community who gave up their time. The pupils found the day extremely useful.

We are very excited to be launching the Prefect Application process for 2020-2021 to our Year 10 pupils. Our expectations for prefects are very high, as they are the role models for the rest of the school and our chosen ambassadors for the wider community. This is a reward to pupils who have worked hard and contributed to the school community throughout their time at Mayfield. Pupils who

wish to be considered as a Drama, Dance, Dance Live, Music or Sports Captains will need to be accepted as a prefect first. Pupils need to collect application forms from Mrs Denford in room 140 and have the form countersigned by two members of staff who support their application. The deadline for the forms to be back to Mrs Denford in room 140 is 3pm on Thursday 19th March 2020. There will then be an interview process over the following two weeks. Any forms handed in after that time will not be considered. We will be looking to appoint approximately 30-40 prefects in total. Good Luck to all applicants!

The Year 11 Parents Evening is on Thursday 26th March from 4pm to 7pm. Appointments can be made on our website [here](#). Year 11 have their final set of mocks next week in Mathematics and English so the Parents Evening will be a good time to discuss these and the best things you can do to support your child in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing you there.

A reminder to parents that by September 2020 all pupils need to be wearing the new PE kit. We have had a phased in start to the new uniform to give parents time to plan for it. The information booklet is on our website [here](#).

Unfortunately, we still have a number of pupils who are coming late to school and entering through the Main Reception on Mayfield Road. Pupils must be here by 8:10am if they are in Years 7 and 8 and by 8:40am if they are in Years 9, 10 and 11 and they must enter through the gate on Hewett Road. If you could please remind your child of this and help them set their alarms nice and early, we would be delighted! Thank you for your support.

Head of Primary (Mr. Matt Stedman)

We have had a very busy first week back. Mississippi and Danube classes have been off on their Residentials to Minstead in the New Forest. The children all seem to have had an amazing time and have been demonstrating all of the 6Rs to take on the challenges of being away from home and out in the countryside. Next week, it is the turn of Yangtze class to go away. I am sure that all classes will have made some fantastic memories of their first Residential trip with Mayfield!



Our Year 4 and 5 girls' football team had another Mayfield 'first' this week when we took part in the Portsmouth Schools Football Tournament for the first time. We were competing against 20 other schools whose teams included players from Year 6. The girls played with tremendous skill and enthusiasm, showing a great sense of teamwork. They did really well to finish second in their pool of 10 schools. Well done everyone!



We are looking forward to World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. On this day, children are encouraged to dress up as one of the characters from their favourite book. Parents or grandparents are also invited to come into classrooms first thing in the morning to share a story with their child. This event will run from 8.45 till 9.15am to enable parents to spend time in more than one classroom where they have more than one child in the school. More information about World Book Day can be found [here](#).

The Booking System for our mid-year Parents Evenings on Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th March. Please make sure that you make your appointment to meet with your child's teacher to review their progress so far and set targets for the rest of the year.

At the start of a new half-term, children should have been issued with their Prep project for this half-term. We have been working hard to upgrade the Our Learning page of the Primary website so that it includes links to the Knowledge Organisers and Prep for each topic, guidance on the National Curriculum and information about how each of the subjects are taught and developed at Mayfield. Please have a look at these updated pages [here](#).

Finally, can I remind parents of the recent change to our Collection Policy at the end of the school day. From Monday 24th February 2020 the following rule will apply:

“Children in Years R to 6 can only be picked up by a responsible person from the August after their 16th birthday who also appear on the Main Authorised Persons Form”.

This means that older family members can pick up Year R to 6 pupils once they have completed their Year 11 studies and left school. If you wish to nominate a family member, then please do speak directly with your child's class teacher to update your MAP form. We hope you find this change helpful whilst also maintaining a sensible threshold for the purposes of safeguarding our children.

Letters sent home this week can be found [here](#):

Year 1 Homework Letter
Year R and 1 Reading App Letter
World Book Day Letter

Head of Pre-school and Nursery

On Thursday 5th March it is World Book Day. On that day your children can dress up as their favourite character -we look forward to seeing their lovely costumes.

Our topic in class has now changed to 'Planting and Growth'. The aim of the topic is for the children to gain an awareness of what plants need in order to grow well. The children will be involved in caring for the plants in our school environment and trying to grow plants that provide us with food. We will explore seeds using handheld lenses and encourage the children to talk about what they can see.

Learning intentions linked to class subject are:

- Talk about differences;
- Sort seeds by shape, size and colour;
- What does a seed need to grow?
- How do we care for it?

Letter sound for the week is 'T' -please take time to create a collage as this promotes lots of language. Could I ask if any parents could donate any seeds or compost to support us with our topic. We have an Inset day on the 19th June