

Mayfield School

News

Spring 1 2023 Issue



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Message from the Head



“Commitment is not measured by words, it is measured by outcomes and actions.”

Welcome to the third edition of our half-termly Mayfield News. The first half of the Spring term started with the new year and therefore a new motto for our school! All pupils, staff, governors and parents/carers were invited to vote from several mottos and it was a pleasure to share the one which best matched the vision and journey of our Mayfield community:

Believe. Achieve. Succeed.

Believe.Achieve.Succeed.received an overwhelming number of votes and was first choice by far. During the first week back I shared our new motto with primary children and to each house in seniors. The wording of our motto – and the fact that we have chosen it together as a school and as a community – means that it is more meaningful to our pupils and easier for everyone to refer to.

At the end of January, we received the final report from OFSTED following our inspection on 15th and 16th November 2022. The ‘Overall Effectiveness’ judgement was incredibly disappointing. Despite this, the inspection team found positive strengths within the school and the Ofsted team could see that we had identified the right areas for improvement and the correct actions have recently

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been taken, although they have not yet had the time to become embedded.

Obviously, inspectors also highlighted a number of key areas in which the school needs to improve and some of these have already been started.

For example, we were pleased to introduce our first groups of primary pupils to our new nurture provision 'The Cove' after the festive break. The Cove has been carefully set up to support children to meet the social and intellectual demands of school life, improving their self-confidence and self-esteem, through a carefully planned curriculum.



Alongside this, the free mental health service, Kooth, which is endorsed by Portsmouth City Council and the Mental Health Support Team, came in to deliver targeted workshops with our pupils in years 8 and 9. The workshop was enjoyed by those invited and the feedback from staff and pupils was positive.

We have continued to promote the message of kindness, mutual respect and tolerance in everything that we do. In order to become truly inclusive at Mayfield, assembly themes and key messages have focussed on mutual respect and tolerance. This was reinforced with the introduction to the 2023 theme for UK Race Equality Day, **#ItsEveryonesBusiness** because tackling race inequality **is everyone's business.** **#ActionDrivesChange.** Pupils were also reminded that they must not allow others to be unkind or condone it through joining in.

During the staff training day, it was great to see all of the staff across the school engaged in Relational Practice (a whole school approach and a key priority in our School Improvement Plan). It focussed on how to put behaviour right when it goes wrong in a more positive, less punitive way (Repairing), and,

more importantly, on how to get it right (Building) and keep it right in the first place (Maintaining).

Furthermore, the lead trainer championed an approach that is collaborative, empowering and positive – and ultimately aimed to improve motivation, engagement and independent learning for all pupils.

The feedback from staff has been positive and our work in relational practice will continue to be implemented and embedded in the day-to-day school practice, whether that be in the office, classroom, outside or in the corridors.

Other training for teaching staff included attending two workshops on an area of Special Educational Needs (SEN). The staff came away from the training workshops being inspired and thinking creatively. This again contributed to ensuring that all pupils become active participants and learners, and that teaching is adapted according to need - a practice which we know will benefit all of our pupils.

I firmly believe that these approaches will help to build a collaborative, inclusive ethos which helps to develop strong mental health from an early age, to enable

our children to build resilience and face life's challenges, leaving them future-ready. I look forward to sharing how further work in these areas continues to have a positive impact.

As always, your support in encouraging your/our children to be their best every day has been welcomed.

Mr A Howard
Headteacher
Mayfield School

Message from the Head of Seniors



Hot Chocolate Friday remains my favourite time of the week! Just compiling the pictures of the young people who I have had the pleasure of spending time with has made me smile. Every Friday is different and every Friday is a joy.

The full list of invitees this half-term is below:

Victory - Evie, Muhamed, Benjamin, Oliver, Michelle, Alan, Cody, Archie, Lacey, Olamidie, Callum and Tayla,

Discovery - Lucas, Lily, Daisy, Oliver, Liam, Alecz, Amelia, Raela-Belle, Lennon, Amal, Lola and Scarlett,

Intrepid - Bella, Ruby, Jannat, Eva, Joseph, Lillie-Mai, Sama, Arya, Senith, Matilda and Evelyn,

Endeavour - Chloe, Freya, Alice, Darcy, Albie, Vada, Lucy, Mason, Antonio, Justine, Maddie, Mia and Maise.



Well done to each of those for being nominated by their Heads of House for Great Attendance to school and for serving the school community by great works of charity.

The Senior section have had an extremely busy half-term, as ever! You will read from Mr Batchelor about the awesome success of our Year 9 pupils in the PETA Dragon's Den vs The Apprenticeship competition - wow! A huge well done to those four pupils. I was privileged to be invited to their rehearsal presentation the day before and could see they were brilliant.

The Dance Live presentation to primary and staff on the Friday before half-term was awesome - I am sure they will enjoy showing off how great they are in the actual competition on Monday 20th February.

Intrepid House ran our House charity week this term - well done to Mrs Reid and Mr Gardner and all of Intrepid who worked hard to raise money for the Trussell Trust. With sporting events, art competitions and Valentine's roses, there was

something for everyone to get involved in.

Mrs Rogers and I spoke to all the Senior pupils in assembly about Respect. Reminding them of the need to respect each other to build the family ethos we are striving to achieve. In the second half of the Spring term we are focussing on Responsible- and reminding pupils what their responsibilities are in our community to themselves and to each other.

Miss L Hillier

Head of Seniors
Mayfield School



House News

Endeavour

This term Endeavour have focused on building a positive ethos and rewarding pupils that consistently do the right thing. We will be looking to reward Year 10 and Year 11 this half term. Pupils have been rewarded in assembly with badges for being *responsible* and *resilient*.

We have also set up a mentoring group with a selected group of Year 10 pupils who are going to work with our younger community to help with any worries or friendship issues.

Miss Hutchinson



Victory

This term, Victory house has been building on their relational ethos and speaking to all pupils in assemblies about how we speak to each other and staff. We are actively supporting pupils in making good choices and taking *responsibility* for their actions. We have pushed the importance on attending detentions after school and using the time to discuss and rebuild relationships with staff and other pupils.

We have also been rewarding pupils who are doing well in lessons, with badges for *respect*, being *responsible* and *resilience*. In tutor times, our circle time on a Friday has been a particular focus with pupils sharing their thoughts and engaging with staff on school issues and personal targets.

Mr Browning



Discovery



The excellent attendance badge winners so far this year!



Discovery's 'Ready' badge winners.



Discovery's PE postcard winners.



Discovery's 'Respectful' badge winners.

Discovery have had a great start to 2023 with lots of students being recognised for their continued hard work and dedication to learning. It has been so lovely to see so many of our students gaining achievements for both work inside of school as well as through their attendance. Celebrating the students' success has been a highlight of the term with the Mayfield 6Rs continuing to be a focus into the this half term. We aim to have more people in the photos especially after our upcoming Discovery Charity Week Event.

Mr Flores

Intrepid

Intrepid has had a great start to the new year! We have been the best House for attendance and hit top spot in our house points. Our celebration assemblies have brought about a positive family ethos which we know will continue throughout the school year. We want to take this time to congratulate the Intrepid pupils that took part in the Dance Live competition and gained third place. What an achievement!

This term Intrepid have had our charity event, working with our chosen charity:



In the week beginning 30th January, we hosted our very own charity event.





We provided a variety of events throughout the week, to help raise money for The Trussell Trust charity:

- Morning activities - bench ball and football
- Retreat spaces at lunch time in computer rooms and game spaces
- Clay pot making in the Art department
- Cake sale
- Valentine roses delivery service
- Practical games in all assemblies in the week

This created a very positive environment for all pupils that participated, resulting in Intrepid raising over £200 for The Trussell Trust and also took supplies to their local food bank branch to help families in Portsmouth.



As part of 'Bee Kind' Week, twenty of our pupils also took part in a litter pick in College Park, in order to help our local community.

Lastly, we would like to wish our Year 11 pupils great success in their current mock exams.

Mrs Reid and Mr Campbell

Events



Aspirations Week

On Monday 16th January, a group of pupils had the opportunity to have a talk by a current degree apprentice talking about their role as a trainee Management Apprentice and about jobs with the company, Willmott Dixon Construction Limited, and the variety of careers there are within this sector.

We also had the NHS in for a talk about the 350+ jobs that are available within the NHS to the whole of Year 9. The NHS is one of the biggest employers within our city so was great to raise the profile of all the careers available to pupils.

Finally, we welcomed City of Portsmouth College for our house assemblies in January to deliver an assembly about A Levels, Technical, Vocational and T Level qualifications.

This was great to see all the options pupils have post-16 (after they leave Year 11) and getting this knowledge of choices across to all our pupils to then share ideas within tutor groups of what might suit their learning needs.

Mrs Denford





'Get Inspired'

On Wednesday 25th January, 30 Year 9 pupils went to visit the Portsmouth Guildhall for an event called 'Get Inspired'. Pupils had the opportunity to go around and interact with a variety of employers and ask questions, try activities to investigate and develop their employability skills. The pupils were *resilient* talking to employers about their future choices they could consider. The employers and event organisers said how polite and *respectful* our pupils were at the event.

Mrs Denford

BAE SYSTEMS

Get Inspired Portsmouth





National Apprenticeship Week

On Wednesday 8th February, Year 10 pupils had a chance to interact and ask questions to current apprentices in the city as part of the 'Apprenticeship Bus' visiting the school. There were a variety of careers present. The visitors all mentioned that our pupils were engaged, *respectful* and asking important questions about their futures.

Mrs Denford





Message from the Head of Primary



We started this half term talking about New Year's resolutions – and how we wanted to try and chose resolutions that could be aims for the year that would help us – we thought of something to aim for in school and something to try and achieve outside of school. I spoke to some children and staff during the half term to find out what their ambitions for the year are. Here are some of their ideas:

Pupils -

"Work on joining up my handwriting."

"Trying to have better reactions when things annoy me."

"Get my wobbly tooth to fall out then make sure I look after my new tooth that grows with good brushing."

"I'm going to try to learn how to use the new roller boots I've got."

"I'd like to have a go at more of the maths challenges."

"Get better at BMX stunts."

"Learn to play the violin."

"I want to train my rats properly so they don't bite."

"Beat my brother on Times Tables Rock Stars."

"Learn more stuff."

"Have fun with my Mum and Dad playing robots."

Staff -

"I want to grasp life; don't be afraid."

"Filling in my positivity journal."

"Put less pressure on myself."

"Improve my Times Tables Rock Stars time per question." (This really is a member of staff and not one of the pupils!)

"Get to know everyone here and find my way around the new building."

"Eat more healthily."

"Try and read more."

"My life is perfect; why would I change anything?"

As we welcomed in the new year, we also launched our new rewards system and different ways of celebrating the children's success. Classes all have sunshines, rainbows and stars (or yellow, blue and silver) displayed and the children are working hard to get moved up on to each level and get their house points.

Each week in Friday assembly, we have celebrated the stars of the week, found out who has been nominated for showing *resourcefulness* and heard about some fantastic *Marvellous Mayfield* moments. The *Diamond Diary* already has lots of names in of those children who have had a marvellous moment, the certificates have been awarded to many children and the stars of the week have learnt a special bow that they take within the assembly too! House points have been hotly contested and are eagerly awaited each week when we find out which house has won for the week and been awarded 4 points in the running total. I can now announce that the first half term's house point totals are as follows. (And the winning house will be getting their reward this week!).

At the end of this half term, the whole of primary also took part in a special 'Big Write' week which had the focus on children's mental health. The

theme of the week was 'Let's Connect', highlighting the benefits of positive connections. During the week, it was lovely to hear the children discussing new 'connections' they had made in their classes and around the school. Friday was our first 'Dress to Express Yourself' day and it was fantastic to get to know more about our pupils' (and teachers') likes and interests, based on what they were wearing.

Miss P Andrews

Interim Head of Primary
Mayfield School

Discovery house: 11 points

Victory house: 13 points

Endeavour house: 18 points

Intrepid house: 20 points



Year R

Year R have had a wonderful start to the year; we started our topic on exploring our hopes and dreams! We read books about people who had achieved great things from both the past and the present. These included books on Marcus Rashford, David Attenborough, Rosa Parks and Dolly Parton.

To further our understanding of the past, we looked at what transport looked like compared to now. The children enjoyed looking at pictures and laughed when they saw a penny farthing bike! In phonics, we learned all the sounds that are taught in Year R. The children have showed great *resilience* with learning these new digraphs and trigraphs.

In Maths, we have been exploring capacity and weight where we have used balance scales and different containers.

We are looking forward to our next topic – Our Wonderful World!

Miss Farrell

Year 1

Year 1 had a busy term learning all about toys. The classes created a toy museum and looked at different toys from different decades. The children were able to sort toys according to their age by looking at the materials they were made from realising that plastic is a more modern material.

Dogger was the main text used for their writing and the children all enjoyed designing a lost poster for Dave to help find Dogger. Indeed, lots of other children read their posters as they were put up in the classrooms and corridor.

In Maths, they have been working hard on adding and subtracting skills within twenty and being able to see the connection between how the same number can be represented in different ways.

Octopus Class were proud to perform their assembly to parents as were the whole year 1 team.

Mrs Guy

Year 2

Year 2 have had a busy term learning all about royalty. The topic, Your Royal Highness, has seen them learn about two female monarchs from British History – Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria. Thinking about our current King, the children enjoyed writing a set of instructions for a brand new suit they had designed for him which incorporated a hidden parachute, as well as writing a letter to persuade him about the choice of location for his coronation.

Improving our multiplication knowledge as well as applying these skills to division were also learnt in Maths. Creating a coat of arms during our DT Day as well as making a crown to wear for the Royal Banquet were definitely highlights for the children!

Mrs Beechurst



Year 3



Year 3's topic this half term was called Planet Protectors. We learned all about the impact of plastic pollution on the environment and ways in which we could help reduce this. Many of our children and their families joined us for a beach clean day in Southsea.

In Science, we have been learning about how plants grow and completed two investigations – one to see which factors affect plant growth and the other to show how the stem carries water. The children really loved coming into school every day and making observations to see how much the plants had changed. They also really enjoyed creating some beautiful sketches of the different parts of a plant.

In English, we have been focusing on non-fiction writing based on a book called 'The Wild Robot'. We found out all about the island where Roz the robot lived and wrote non-chronological reports based on the animals, plants and mountains that were found there.

In Maths, we were introduced to our 3, 4 and 8 times tables. We started by generating the times tables using counters and repeated addition to help us get a good understanding of the multiples of

each table. We then began to apply this knowledge to help us recall the times tables facts. We will be working a lot on times tables so that by the end of the year we hope most children will be confident with their 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

Mrs Pountain



Year 4

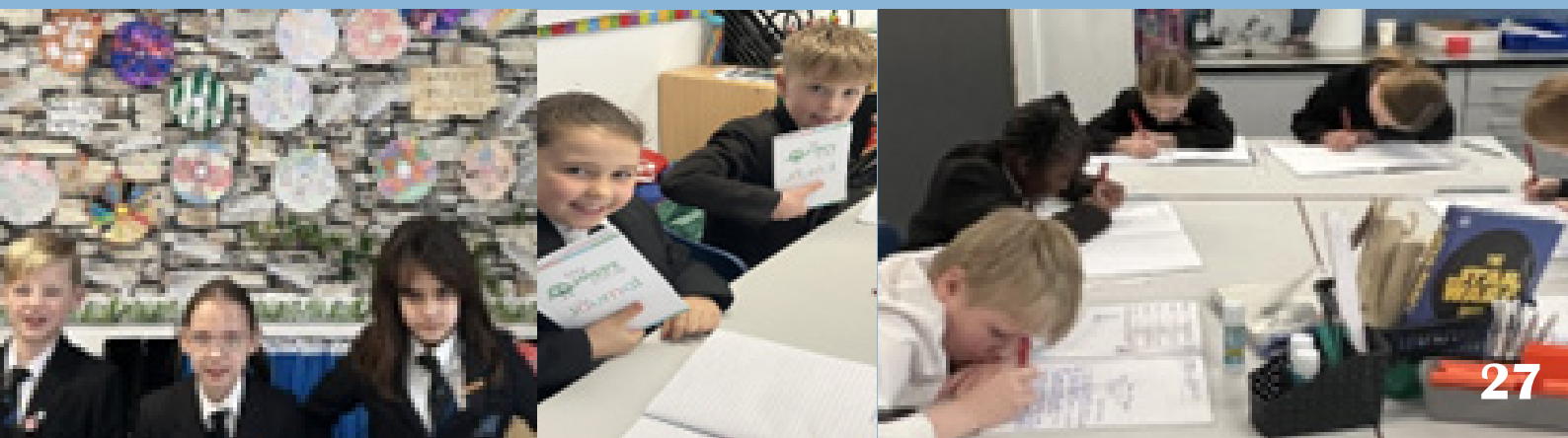
This half term, Year 4's Topic was called Buried Treasures. We had a wonderful time reading and learning about the legend of Beowulf. Mr. Head's reading group came up with some creative actions for the story and really enjoyed performing them. During the half term we looked at the Anglo-Saxons and the influence they have had on modern Britain. We had great fun designing our own shields and writing in Runes.

In English, this half term we have written some exciting adventure stories. Using the story of Beowulf as inspiration, we looked at the setting and description. We used vocabulary to enhance the atmosphere of our exciting stories. We also had a focus of mental health, using My Happy

Minds work and connecting it with Children's Mental Health week. We spoke about making good connections and the impact that it has on our mental well-being.

In maths this half term we have been learning our times tables in all sorts of fun ways and have become Times Table Rock Stars! This has really helped us with our work on formal multiplication and division. Year 4 have really enjoyed fluency daily and have some imaginative, fun ways to improve our Maths skills.

Mr Head



Year 5

This half term our topic has been focusing on 'Crime and Consequence'. We have learned all about how crimes (and the relevant sanctions) have changed throughout history. We have explored differing sources which have told us all about how crimes were viewed throughout history and comparing them to modern day crime and punishments too. The topic unit finished with a whole day spent exploring our topic, complete with an actor coming

in and demonstrating different punishments. We also enjoyed handling replica resources from various time periods and taking part in a mock court case.

In writing, we focused on using a version of Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*. We explored what it was like to live in the time period, and then wrote diaries as *Oliver Twist* exploring his emotions. We also wrote letters to Mr Bumble to try and persuade him to let the children in the workhouse receive more food. We even tried the gruel to help us understand what it was like!

In Maths, we have been having great fun exploring Times Tables Rockstars and using it as a tool to improve recall of multiplication facts. We have also worked hard to improve our understanding of fractions.

Mr Newsam



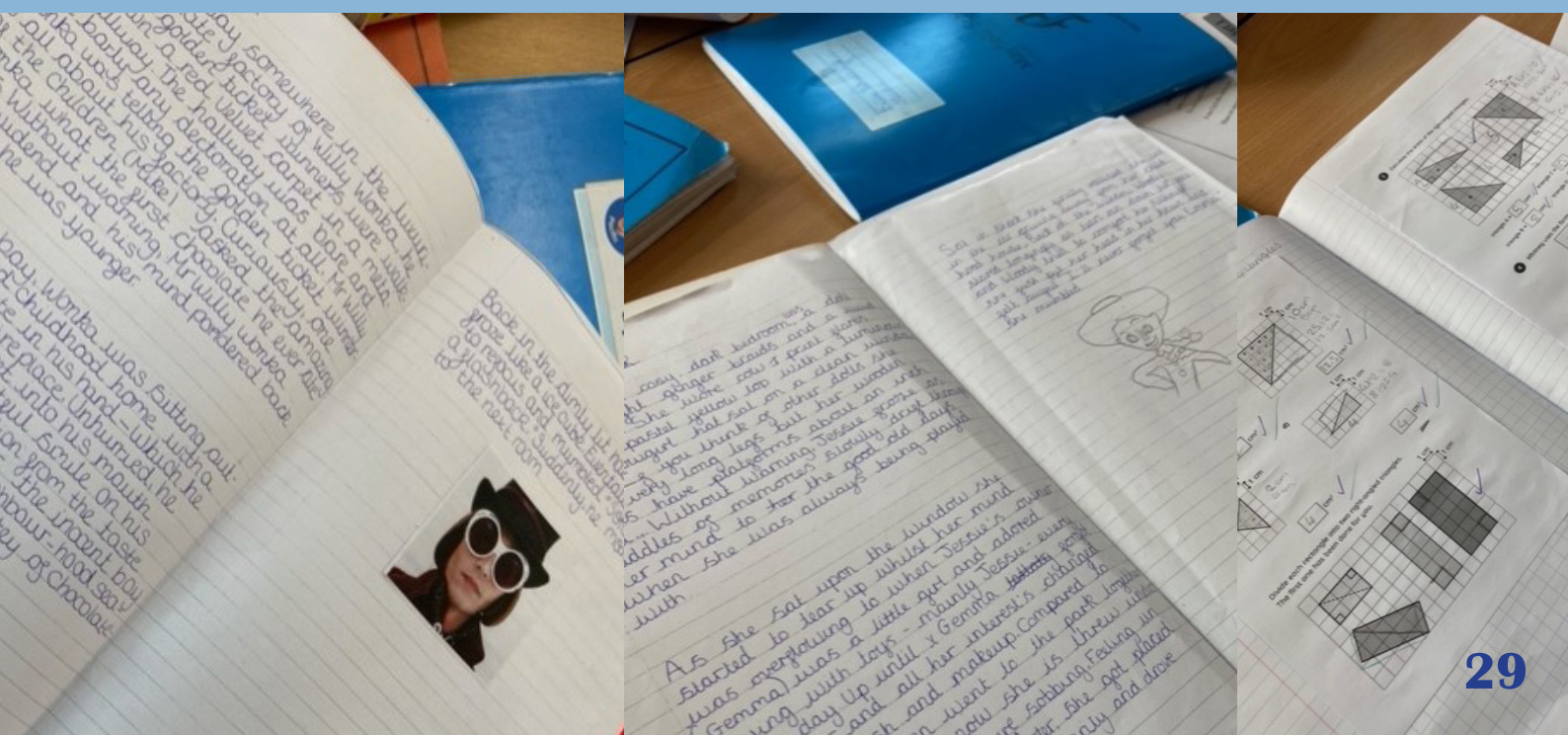
Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic half-term learning about our new topic 'Wonders of the World' with a history focus on Ancient Egypt. We have been introduced to this fascinating period in time and explored the impact of the river Nile on trade and the natural resources that it offered this ancient civilization. We also learned about who the pharaohs were, and explored some significant figures such as Tutankhamun and Ramses II.

In English, we have written newspaper reports about a boy with a pig's heart, and used our knowledge of year 6 grammar to engage the reader and take our writing seriously.

In Maths, we have been consolidating our knowledge of fractions, decimals and percentages and using Times Tables Rock Stars.

Mr Davies



School Calendar

First day back after Half-Term: Monday 20th February 2023

Easter Holiday: Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April 2023

February

20th February	Senior Dance Live at Guildhall
20th February - 1st March	Year 4 Minstead Study Centre Trip
w/b 20th & 27th February	Year 9 Options Taster Lessons
21st & 22nd February	Teenage Booster Vaccinations
22nd February - 3rd March	Year 11 Mock Examinations
23rd February	Year 5 and 6 Literature Quiz
24th February	Year 1 Marwell Zoo Trip
24th February - 3rd March	Year 5 and 6 Girls Football Tournament
27th February	Primary Sponsored Read
28th February	School Nurse Clinic
28th February	T Levels Health and Nursing Masterclass

March

1st March	Year 11 Revision Seminar
1st March	Booster Vaccinations Catch-ups
2nd March	Proposed Strike Action
3rd March	World Book Day
6th March	Dolphin Class Assembly
7th March	Primary Dance Live
9th March	Year 10 Mock Interview Preparation Day
10th March	Friends of Mayfield Discos
w/b 13th March	British Science Week
13th March	Year 10 Employer Ready Day
14th March	Pi Day
14th March	Year 6 Parent Event
14th March	Year 6 Girls Netball Tournament
15th & 16th March	Proposed Strike Day
17th March	Red Nose Day
17th March	Year 11 Yearbook photos
17th & 24th March	Year 4 and 5 Football Tournament
17th March	Friends Of Mayfield Quiz
21st & 28th March	Travelling Book Fayre in Primary Library
21st March	HPV Vaccinations Dose 2

March - continued...

21st & 22nd March	Music Showcase
22nd March	Jellyfish Class Assembly
23rd March	Year 9 Parents and Options Evening
24th March	Year 10 Mock Interview Day
27 - 29th March	Year 7 Trips to 'Our Back Garden'
27th March	Gymnastics Festival
27th March	Year 6 Parent Event
27th & 29th March	Year R Parent Egg Decorating Event
28th March	Year 2 Parent Event
29th March	Caspian Class Assembly
30th March	Year 1 Play Performance
30th March	Orienteering Festival
30th March	Year 11 Parents Evening
31st March	Final Day of Term



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mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk