

# Mayfield Messenger

9<sup>th</sup> February 2024



Ready, Respectful, Resilient, Responsible, Resourceful, Reflective

Dear parents and carers,

## A message from Mr Howard

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those staff who will be leaving us at the end of this half term. They have all contributed to the Mayfield community and been part of our exciting journey of improvement. A special acknowledgement goes to 'The one and only, Mr Steadman'. Mr Steadman, who has been a key part in this school for the past 30 years, is a person who is honest, full of integrity, someone who everyone respects. He has been KS3 Manager, Pastoral Lead, overseen curriculum, Head of Primary and our now, Business and Operations Manager. He oversaw the safety plans through Covid, the voucher schemes for parents, and has used his skills of organisation to oversee the final stage of the new build. As you can see, Mr Steadman has been in every role. So...Mr Steadman...we all wish you well in your next venture, where we hope that it brings you as much adversity, challenge, fun and smiles as the 30 years at Mayfield has. Whilst the fans at Craven Cottage chant the latest signing, or the winning goal, Mayfield will be chanting 'Stedman, Stedman, Stedman' on Friday when you leave the Mayfield 'M' embedded in his memories. Everyone...'The one and only, Mr Steadman'.

I wish you all a fantastic half term break!

#Believe. Achieve. Succeed. #TeamMayfield

**Believe. Achieve. Succeed.**

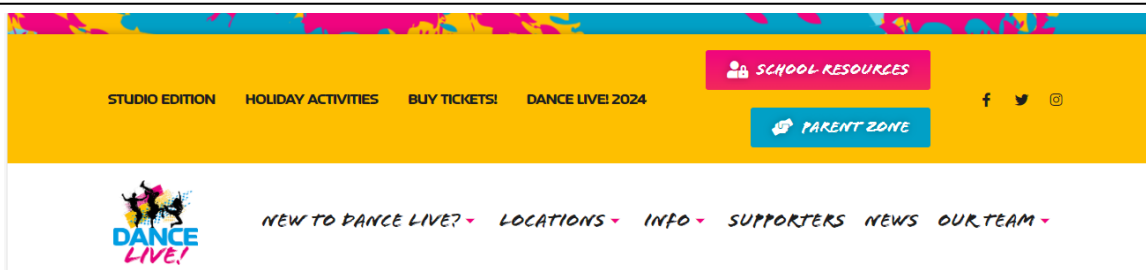
## Another Dance Live success!

Over the last two weeks our primary pupils and senior pupils have performed in the Dance Live competition at the Portsmouth Guildhall in front of a huge audience. Both teams did the school proud and were praised by Dance Live staff, other schools, and members of the public/audience for their performance as well as their attitudes towards each other and other school competitors.

Our primary team did incredibly well and represented our school superbly, demonstrating our motto, Believe. Achieve. Succeed. Our senior team were competing against other schools, and a college and were delighted to come away with 2nd place overall, as well as a creative excellence award in the video. The head judge referred to us as 'a company' with another saying that they always like our originality.

Every performer in both primary and senior teams grew in confidence, took themselves outside their comfort zone and showed great resilience and respect as a result of the preparation and then in the final performances. The performance of both teams, talent, attitude and the commitment from everyone involved - and that included the adult volunteers who have done an amazing job, was exceptional. A special thanks must go to all of the adults who supported the journey to this event as without them, this opportunity would not be possible. There have been lots of positive comments from parents and carers with one parent messaging,

'What can I say ? Fantastic in all respects. We've been aware of all the hard work during rehearsals, and it certainly paid off last night: brilliant costumes, choreography, concept, film, set, music, amazing teamwork and very obvious talent. Please extend thanks to the team for all of your inspiration, guidance, support and efforts. The awards were very welcome and well deserved but, for us, the icing on the cake was a very tired, but happy, young lady this morning saying "dance live was so much fun!"



**Findings from the letter sent to parents and carers of children with SEND (in Seniors) following second analytical survey were:**

- All parents who responded know how to contact Learning Support in seniors.
- Parents and carers find email, meetings and Class Charts are the best forms of communication.
- All correspondence and queries from those who responded to the survey are answered.
- The majority of people, out of those who responded, do not attend the SEND Review Evenings.
- 1 responder commented that aside from the termly reports, EHCP annual reviews, Class Charts/Messenger updates and Parents' Evenings, they do not get specific reports around interventions and would prefer more contact from the LSA who works most with their child.
- Everybody who responded - whose child has an EHCP - agreed that they are happy with their child's LSA support.

**In light of these findings we are going to:**

- Advertise the SEND Review evenings more – these are termly opportunities to come in and directly discuss your child and their needs with 4 members of the senior Learning Support Department – SENDCO, Assistant SENDCO, and 2 Lead Inclusion Support Assistants (LISAs). We have these for communication purposes and so that parents can come along, get feedback on how their child is doing, and raise any queries or concerns. We also have the Mental Health Support Team (NHS service) and Portsmouth Parent Voices (parents of children with SEND in the city) present for advice and support. The SEND Review Evenings provide the offer of a termly opportunity to give direct feedback, discuss interventions and progress, raise concerns, make referrals, and update paperwork (and more besides!)
- The majority of parents of children with an EHCP agree that they get very regular feedback from the LSA who knows their child best, but we shall ask that LSAs ensure that they contact parents fortnightly as an absolute minimum. Note: this is only children with EHCPs.
- We shall ask our two LISAs to provide an email to parents detailing progress made during any intervention once it has been completed. (Children currently receive a written invitation to intervention, we email or call parents to let them know, and it then appears on the child's timetable on Class Charts).



**WHAT IS ANXIETY?**



Anxiety is what we feel when we are worried, tense or afraid – particularly about things that are about to happen, or which we think could happen in the future. We all experience anxiety from time to time and some anxiety is helpful, as it can keep us safe from harm or help us reach our potential.

**Please read the attached leaflet which includes lots of different ways that we can get our anxiety back under control.**



**TOP TIPS TO RESPOND TO YOUR CHILD'S ANXIOUS BEHAVIOUR**



Parental responses to children's anxious behaviour can have a huge impact.

By using some of the following techniques, you can help your child build up their brave behaviour and develop their confidence in coping with and overcoming their fears.

Children find attention and praise very rewarding. The more brave behaviour is noticed and praised, the more children are likely to do it

**Attached to the Messenger is a leaflet with top tips to respond to your child's anxious behaviour.**



**INSET DAYS**

The remaining INSET days will be;

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024**



**The school will be closed for pupils on these days.**

## Peer Support for Parents and Carers

### Are you currently supporting a child or young person experiencing self-harm?

Your wellbeing is just as important, and we know this is a difficult subject to talk about.

Solent Mind are running online Peer Groups Tuesdays at 12.30pm-1.30pm each fortnight, or Wednesdays 6pm-7pm each fortnight until the end of March 2024, along with bespoke individual 1:1 sessions for advice, guidance and support.

If you are interested in accessing either the groups, 1:1s, or both, please complete a self-referral via the Support Hub at [selfharmupporthubhants.org.uk](http://selfharmupporthubhants.org.uk)

They will also be running self-harm awareness sessions looking at how you can support your child or young person.

**Please see below dates for remaining sessions available until the end of the year which can also be booked through the hub.**



### February

### March

Portsmouth SEND Local Offer

## Young person's SEND survey

Have your say and help shape services for those aged 13-25 years old in Portsmouth with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

Complete the survey and make a difference today!  
Visit [portsmouthlocaloffer.org/survey](http://portsmouthlocaloffer.org/survey)

Tuesday 13, 6-7pm

Tuesday 12, 1-2pm

Tuesday 27, 6-7pm

Tuesday 26, 6-7pm

The Railway can be extremely dangerous if not used correctly.

Please be safe and do NOT enter or play upon the tracks or crossings.

British Transport Police and Network Rail work closely to identify those involved by examining CCTV footage. You can be prosecuted or fined. Do not take the risk.

**NetworkRail**

### Share your child's success outside of Mayfield

If your child/ren have achieved something over the Festive period, please share a picture and a brief description of the success. This could appear in the next Mayfield Messenger.

Please send these to

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

**We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday.**



### Swimming Star!

Congratulations to Sophia in Caribbean.

Sophia came first and second in a swimming gala last weekend.

Well done Sophia !

**Believe. Achieve. Succeed.**