

# Mayfield School

# News

Spring 2 2024 Issue



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# Message from the Head



**“You must take personal responsibility. You cannot change the circumstances, the season, or the wind, but you can change yourself. That is something you have charge of.”**

*- Jim Rohn*

Welcome to the fourth edition of our half-termly Mayfield News.

The end of Spring 1 concluded with our amazing primary pupils and senior pupils who 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!”

As we head into the Easter break, we have continued to be fully committed towards achieving our vision to create a family ethos that raises aspirations and makes a real difference to the life chances of our young people. The first week back focused on responsibility and being responsible. The pupils in each house thought about what responsibility meant and what they were responsible for.

In addition to this, there has been so much activity going on during this half term with responsibility and resilience being two words to sum it up. Year 3 pupils and staff demonstrated their responsibility by helping our local environment and participating in a beach clean, pupils in Year 10 demonstrated their willingness to increase their level of responsibility by applying to be a prefect in preparation for next academic year and Year 4 pupils rose to the challenge during the residential trip at Minstead Study Centre. The children thoroughly enjoyed staying in a lodge, participating in fantastic learning experiences and having hot chocolate and marshmallows before bed each night!

In seniors, Year 10 pupils prepared themselves to speak to a range of professionals – Business Volunteers - as part of an opportunity to experience



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an interview. At the end, the professionals provided feedback on the pupil's communication skills and body language. The pupils demonstrated a range of skills and overcame their initial nervousness.

Wider school events such as World Book Day saw all staff and the primary children dress as characters from their favourite or well-known texts. From the three little pigs to Sherlock Holmes, the school had a buzz of energy with the mission of the day to promote reading for pleasure. The PD day in seniors was also a great success! One particular highlight was the opportunity for our Year 11 students who got behind the wheel and demonstrated their driving skills. More impressive was the support students gave to each other - to motivate, inspire and congratulate - before, during and after driving.

This was all in the same half term as Year 11 completing their mock exams and Year 6 completing their SAT mocks. I have been incredibly impressed with the way Year 11 have approached their last set of mock exams before their GCSE exams in the Summer. The resilience and reflection shown was excellent. With this attitude towards their studies, I am certain they will achieve well. These were a great opportunity for Year 11 and Year 6 pupils to experience the build up to tests/exams and the test/exam conditions.

It was a very positive end to the half term with Year 9 parents and carers attending the options evening and then

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a week later, attending the Year 9 parents and carers evening. It was a pleasure sharing the increased options we are offering in preparation for next academic year and it was encouraging to hear how so many Year 9 pupils had already had a good understanding about the subjects that they were hoping to study. They were very excited to see Food Technology, GCSE PE and Travel and Tourism as an option. I look forward to seeing their final choices! Being able to share in the celebration of increasing the options available to our Year 9 students and hearing about their future goals was great.

We have been busy planning the next stages of improvement to the school environment which includes the substantial improvement work taking place during the Easter break to both the primary and senior learning areas. I am excited to share that all of the classrooms in Seniors will have an interactive teaching/learning screen and the primary section of the school will be carpeted in every classroom and in the corridors. This work is part of the school improvement capital grant which Saltern's Academy Trust are using to improve the teaching and learning environment.

In addition, I have continued to run Hot Chocolate Friday to say "well done" to some of our pupils who go above and beyond.

Well done to all of these amazing pupils. Thank you to all the staff who have worked so tirelessly to support our pupils this half-term, and all our parents who are working with us to support our children.

Have a fabulous holiday! I wish you all well and look forward to welcoming you all back in the new term. As always, your support in encouraging your/our children to be their best every day has been welcomed.

**Mr A Howard**

Headteacher

*Mayfield School*



# House News

## Endeavour

Happy Easter from Endeavour House!

It has been a great term for Endeavour House. We have got really involved in all school activities, and we have recently been nominated as the most 'RESPONSIBLE' House.

Our charity event this half-term was for Viva Gymnastics, a local gym club within the community. We had a cake sale and raffle tickets selling every day, alongside a spin-a-thon, where pupils could see how far they could cycle in one minute. On Tuesday, we ran an after-school session for pupils to come and be active.

A big congratulations to the winners. The raffle cuddly dog went to Jamie in Year 7, and the winner of the spin-a-thon was James in Year 11.

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At the end of the week, we had raised over £150 to hand over to the gymnastics club.

This half-term we have had many assemblies for our Year 9 pupils. They were spoken to by local companies and all subject leads. This was to ensure they were ready to choose their options going into their Year 10/11 assessment years.

A big push on summer activities booklets, getting us all ready and excited for the summer term. Pupils will know their option choices next term. We most recently had a reward event for pupils chosen by the tutors for generally doing good things at tutor time, being involved and doing activities for sessions in the morning. Well done to those pupils.

Have a great Easter, we look forward to seeing you in the summer term.

**Miss Hutchinson**





# Victory

Happy Easter from Victory - Another great half-term for Victory House. This half-term we focused our rewards on tutor groups with tutors nominating students who are consistently doing the right thing and going above and beyond.

Our Year 9s have been busy choosing options for GCSE and all students have been selecting their choices for activities week - lots of exciting opportunities. Some of our students have been on the ski trip to Boí Taüll this week and have had a fantastic time!

During our charity week, we managed to raise £150 for the VIVA Gymnastics club through

cake sales, spin-a-thons, raffles and had lots of prizes handed out.

Personal Development Day on Thursday 21st March gave pupils the experience of a range of activities including Driving school lessons, cooking, swimming, positive relationships, and talks from external providers. The day was successful as many of our students got involved and represented the school so well.

Have a great Easter, we look forward to seeing you for the summer term.

**Miss Franklin**



# Discovery

Happy Easter from Discovery! It has been another successful term for Discovery House with lots of exciting things happening for both individuals and the whole house. Our charity week this half term was a big success with many students supporting as well as donating. At the end of the week, we had raised over £150 to hand over to the VIVA Gymnastic Club.

We had Year 11 students interviewing for the Wilkie scholarship including J'Mari, Meesha and Eliza. Unfortunately, the scholarship wasn't offered to these students, however, we are so proud that they applied and represented the house focusing on their future endeavours.

Personal Development Day on Thursday 21st March was successful as many of our students got involved with the activities running that day. These included driving school, cooking, swimming, positive relationships, and talks from external agencies.

Rewards this half term have been

focused on tutor groups with tutors nominating students who are consistently doing the right thing and going above and beyond.

Have a great Easter. We look forward to seeing you for the summer term.

**Miss Franklin**



# Intrepid

Happy end of term! What a great half-term Intrepid has had with lots of activities and events to celebrate. A big shout out to Lucy and Zenith in 19 for gaining the Wilkie Scholarship at Portsmouth Grammar School.

At our last charity event we raised money for ROWANS Hospice. This term we had the pleasure of delivering the money. Maddie, Mia and Evelyn led the handover and the Hospice staff members were incredibly grateful.

The new charity event this half-term was for Viva Gymnastics, a local gym club within the community. We had a cake sale every day and had a spin-a-thon, where pupils could see how far they could cycle in one minute. We also had a raffle of a huge cuddly dog. On Tuesday we ran an after-school session for pupils to come and be active.

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A big congratulations to Jamie in Year 7, who was the winner of the cuddly teddy, and the winner of the spin-a-thon was James in Year 11.

At the end of the week, we had raised over £150 to hand over to the VIVA Gymnastic Club.

We have also been busy with World Book Day on the 23rd April. The Intrepid team dressed up. We had a witch, a bee, a goblin, a clown and lots more fun characters.

This half-term Year 9 pupils received talks from all the subject leaders and many companies outside school from the local community. They now feel fully equipped to choose their options going into their Year 10/11 assessment years.

We have also had a reward event for pupils chosen by their tutors. They were told positive things at the event about why they had been chosen. One tutor reported that, 'He was always kind and

listened to others and offered support during circle time'.

Have a restful Easter holiday and we look forward to seeing you all in the summer term, one that will be filled with sunshine and fun.

## Miss Jones and Mrs Reid



Senior

# Career Events



## Get ready for the future you want.

This term, career education has been stronger than ever. We have had 32 career events in the school so far and we are looking forward to hosting another 15 more.

We started this half term with our Year 10s where they had a workshop about how to present themselves in a job/college interview. Then, some students from this year's group went to Sparsholt College and they were amused by how wonderful this college is and what they can offer to young people. We also took some Year 8s to the University of Portsmouth where they experienced three lectures (textiles, medicine, and forensic literature) and they talked to university students and what could be studied at this university.

We put in place a programme for Year 9s where they discussed their GCSE options in their Citizenship

lessons, followed by assemblies with Havant and Southdowns College, which allowed the pupils to discuss questions like; How much money will I earn if I know another language? Where will Geography take me in life? etc. The City of Portsmouth College visited the school as well to talk about T-levels, along with Oaklands Catholic 6th Form College, talking to them about

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A-levels. Not long after, pupils were thinking more about their options and subject leaders presented to our Year 9s how each subject would be handled next year, not to mention what exam board they would need to sit, depending on their choice. To finish this amazing work with Year 9s, they had a workshop with the NHS apprenticeship team where they saw what professions the health and safety field is offering to them and how they can link this with their GCSE options. Then, Year 10s had their first interview in 1 to 1 style, where an employer asked them questions for 15 minutes simulating a real job/college interview. This experience was extremely beneficial for our students because by Christmas they should be applying to four colleges where the interview goes from one hour to half of the day according to what course they will be applying to.

We are going to finish this half term with a presentation from ASK apprenticeship for Year 9 and 10 pupils where they will have a stand in the cafeteria at lunchtime and they will show our students what courses they can do with this provider.

Next half-term, pupils will have the opportunity to talk to employers to learn about the labour market and to attend some trips to our local colleges and universities.

If you would like to get involved on this day or have any questions about college, university trips, or outreach programmes, please contact Mrs Munoz at [munoz-evelyn@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:munoz-evelyn@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk).

**Mrs Munoz**





# Message from the Head of Primary



Dear Parents/Carers,

I feel I always start this section of the newsletter commenting on how quickly the half term has passed, and I'm tempted to do the same again!

We have witnessed some exceptional learning this half-term across the whole of Primary, including a very prestigious visit to Year 2's Art Gallery. The offer of a glass of Schloer and a Maryland cookie to accompany our perusal of the gallery as visitors made the experience even more impressive!

Year 4 have had a brilliant time during their residential trip to Minstead, Year 6 have tackled the challenge of Mock Key Stage 2 SATs with determination and great maturity, and our class assemblies to parents/families have been well attended during the half term, providing much entertainment

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and information about the children's curriculum including learning that the French over Easter make one giant omelette using 15,000 eggs!

We will see a few members of staff say goodbye today to begin new adventures. We wish Miss Percival all the very best as she begins her maternity leave and hope she manages to have a few days of rest before baby arrives! Mr Hungerford, Mr Thomas-Scarrott and Miss Gibbs will all be moving on to pastures new in local schools. Mrs Uddin will also be saying farewell to spend more time with her family. We wish all of these members of staff much love and luck for the future.

Next half-term sees the return of our formal testing week for Year 6 and the start of Year 4 weekly swimming at the Mountbatten Centre. I am particularly excited to say also that our Primary Classrooms will be carpeted over Easter which will make our environment feel so much more comfortable!

An incredible thank you to the pupils, families and Mayfield staff for another great half-term. Have a wonderful Easter break and we look forward to seeing you in the summer term.

## **Miss R Osborne**

Head of Primary

*Mayfield School*

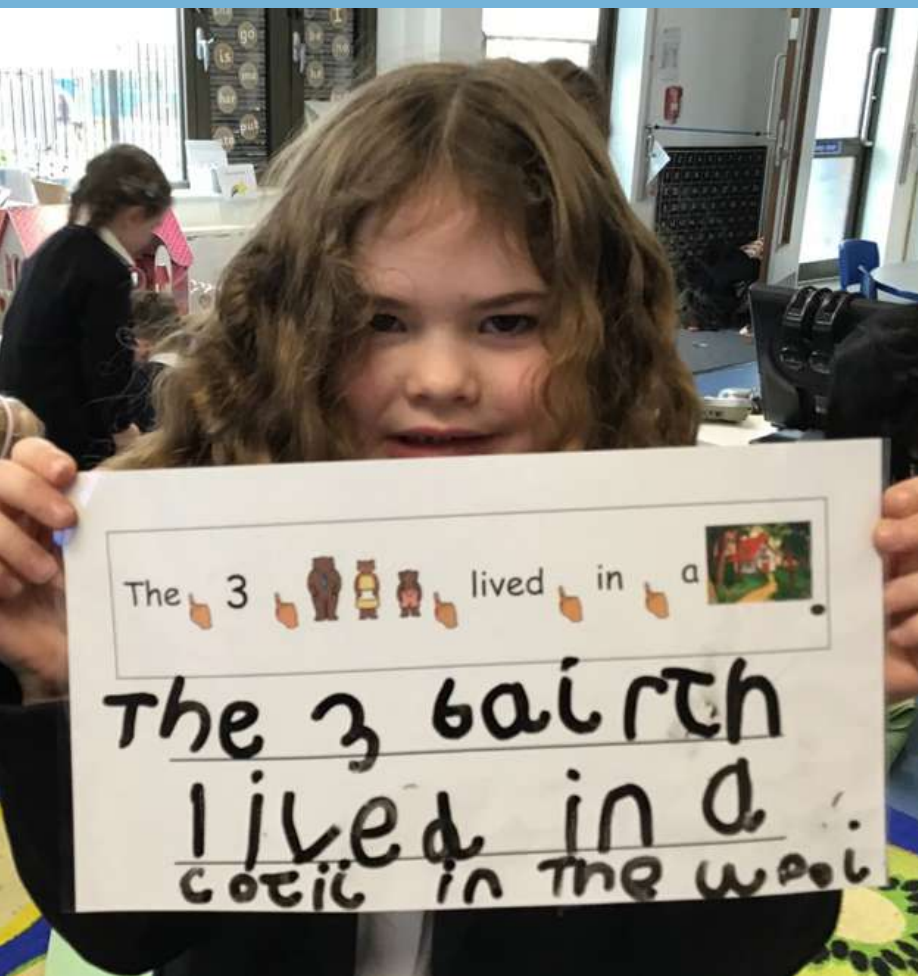


# Year R

At the start of this half-term, Reception have been on the hunt for a porridge thief after they came to school to find a broken chair and half-eaten porridge. We came to the conclusion that it must have been Goldilocks! We then had lots of fun listening to different versions of the story, learning songs and raps and even making our own porridge. It was delicious!

Next, we decided to find out more about growing plants. We read a story called 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and planted our grass seeds. The children have created amazing artwork of beautiful plants and flowers and enjoyed exploring colour and texture.

**Mrs Bates**



# Year 1

Year 1 has had a fabulous time this half-term and are all very excited for Easter.

This half term we have focussed on implementing a new reading and writing scheme, which the children are enjoying. They've been able to produce two pieces of writing; one a story about losing a toy within their bedrooms - huge thank you to those who provided a picture for us and the other piece was a letter in response to Marwell Zoo, where we've got to learn about all of the children's favourite animals and what they would like to find out about when we visit.

Within maths, we've been focusing on measuring and have been using the outside area (when it wasn't raining) to complete practical investigations such as, Are larger objects always heavier? The children explored height, length, capacity and weight.

Geography this half term involved learning about physical and human features, where the children learnt lots of new vocabulary such as port, vegetation and harbour. Firstly, they sorted pictures of different features to see what common

characteristics they could see. They were then eventually able to label an aerial photo of Southsea with the features that they could find.

For Science, we finished looking at materials. This involved exploring and predicting what materials are waterproof, can float and are magnetic. The unit finished with all of the

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children trying to build a waterproof boat to hold a Lego character - needless to say, he didn't survive every trip!

Lastly, this half-term for DT we have looked at healthy eating. We started by identifying different food groups and where food comes from. We studied where chocolate comes from and finished off with designing and making our very own, very naughty chocolate cakes - well it is nearly Easter!



Alongside all of this, we've become actors and now feature in our own version of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and took part in a dance workshop, reenacting a version of 'Where the Wild Things Are'.

Previous attachment



We look forward to making many more amazing memories with your children during the Summer term. Enjoy your Easter holidays.

**Mrs Higgins**

# Year 2

This term, Year 2 has been entitled 'Go Wild'. We started the term with an Africa Day, where we learned all about Kenya, made African necklaces and printed shapes to make a kente cloth. We then wrote all about this day in our English unit about recounts. In Science, we have been linking our learning about Africa to different biomes across the world and have also explored microhabitats that are on our school grounds. Our most recent English unit was an African Savannah story where we came up with our own character and plot and we enjoyed using lots of different adjectives and adverbs in our writing. Our Maths this term has been all about measuring accurately using different units. We learnt all about measuring length and width in centimetres and metres, mass in grams and kilograms and capacity in millilitres and litres.

**Mrs Pountain**



# Year 3

This half-term, Year 3 started off with an exciting beach clean on Eastney Beach. On a cold, wet, Saturday morning, children and adults braved the elements to take part. It was an amazing sight to see.

The children, this half-term, have continued to work hard on their writing skills. We have written instructions on how to make a clay pinch pot and written some beautiful narrative stories. We also dressed up and had a lot of fun, promoting the love of reading on World Book Day.

In Maths this half-term, the children have shown amazing resilience and tackled fraction problems. The children have not only excelled at solving these problems but can also reason and explain their thinking.

In our topic work this half-term we have started looking at the Great Roman Empire and the impact it had on Britain. We are looking forward to our Roman day next term and meeting a real-life Roman soldier!

**Mr Head**



# Year 4

In Year 4, we have had a fantastic half-term continuing to work on our topic of Anglo Saxons and Vikings, whilst a large proportion of the year group also enjoyed their residential trip to Minstead.

Whether they went on residential or not, the children have made Viking shields and longboats, assessing how effective they are and developing an understanding of the importance of the sea for these people.

In maths, the children have continued to apply their knowledge of times tables to fractions and fractional knowledge with great success. We have built in investigations, time to create fractions using manipulatives and reasoning about what the numerator (and denominator) do to change the composition of fractions.

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In writing, the children have enjoyed applying their knowledge of the human digestive system to explanation texts, before writing their own example about a robot - the resulting compositions were fantastic! The children are now in the process of writing their own adventure stories-enjoying playing with dialogue and language to impact the reader.

For those who did go to Minstead, the opportunity to develop their resilience, independence and personal organisation has led to a fantastic well-rounded and maturing community of children. Myself (and the Year 4 team) have greatly enjoyed time with the children and seeing them away from the school environment. We had rain, sunshine and everything in between but we never stopped smiling and laughing!

We cannot wait to start our Egyptians topic and apply our growing historical analysis skills!

**Mr Newsam**





# Year 5

This half-term has flown by! We can't believe we are two-thirds of the way through the year. It has been a busy six weeks in Year 5, with children working hard to master new skills and new learning.

One of the highlights of the half-term has been designing, making and painting our Ancient Greek pots. The children enjoyed researching and then making the pots out of clay. The tidying up afterwards was a little more tricky!

In our PE lessons, we have been working on a unit about the Paralympic Games. The children have challenged themselves to take part in different activities where they had different disabilities. They completed blindfolded obstacle courses, played a variation of wheelchair volleyball and even had to play games where they were not able to speak! The children's eagerness to participate and their resilience was commendable.

We would like to congratulate all of the pupils on the progress that they have made through the year so far. We had an assessment week this half-term, and the

children worked really hard on a number of different maths, reading and English papers. The assessments have shown that the children have made progress from their starting points and we are really proud of them.

Thank you to all of our parents and carers for the help and support that you give to your children in terms of homework, reading at home and attendance. We look forward to a warmer (and hopefully drier) summer term.

**Miss Lewis**



# Year 6

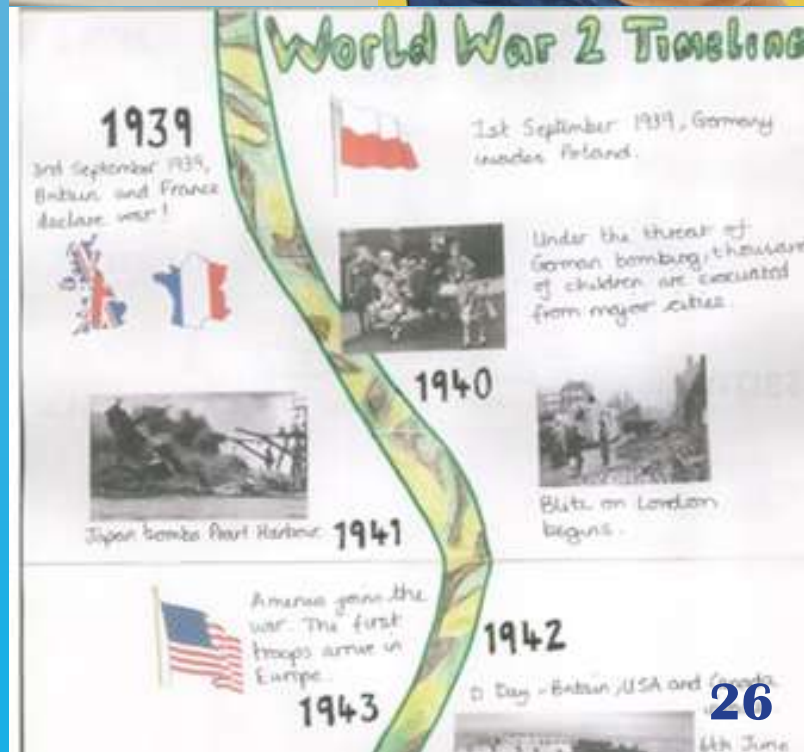
This half-term, Year 6 has been learning all about World War 2. We have explored how it started, what life was like during the war, and how it finally ended. We kicked off the topic with our 'Evacuee Day', and the children absolutely loved dressing up and receiving telegrams from their parents/carers.

In Science, we have been learning about electricity and how to make simple circuits. We have learned what happens when we add multiple cells to a circuit with a bulb, practised working scientifically by measuring lux levels of bulbs and decibels of buzzers.

In English, we have been using the book 'The Island' as a stimulus for our writing. Children have written informal diary entries and formal letters focusing on shifting the formality of their writing to suit the audience and purpose of their writing. We have also been writing suspense stories and learning how to engage our readers using a variety of literary devices such as figurative language and inner dialogue.

Finally, the children have been working hard on securing their arithmetic skills and solving a variety of problems in maths ahead of their KS2 SATS exams in May. They have been identifying their individual areas of development and working alongside their peers to close their gaps in learning and build confidence.

Mr Davies



# School Calendar

First day back after Easter Holidays: Monday 15th April 2024

May Half-Term: Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May 2024

## APRIL

<b>16th April</b>	Year 1 Marwell Trip
<b>23rd April</b>	SEND Review Evening
<b>30th April - 2nd May</b>	Primary Parents Evening

## MAY

<b>1st May</b>	Year 2 SATs
<b>10th May</b>	Senior PD Day 4
<b>w/b 13th May</b>	Year 6 SATs
<b>w/b 13th, 20th May and 3rd, 10th, 11th June</b>	Year 11 Exams
<b>23rd May</b>	Year 7 Parents' Evening



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