

Mayfield School News

Summer 1 2024 Issue



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Message from the Head



Welcome to the Summer 1 edition of our half-termly Mayfield News.

A half-term of ducklings, trips - ranging from the farm to university, sporting success, celebration, raising awareness, resilience in tests and a Roman invasion (and much more!)

The first half of the Summer term started off with a primary trip to Marwell and a successful senior trip to Oxford where this was also an opportunity for students across the trust to come together - Mayfield, Trafalgar and Admiral Lord Nelson. It was such an enriching experience where all students were courteous, curious, and inspired.

Furthermore, a group of pupils attended a final competition at Fratton Park. I am pleased to say that they won in 2 categories and as a result, received certificates, 2 signed footballs and a framed, signed Portsmouth Football Club shirt. This is an amazing achievement!

Year R hatched ducklings from eggs and watched them grow. The decision to keep them as the Mayfield school pets has been welcomed by so many pupils - primary and seniors. Whilst looking after them in the Howard household during the weekends (and soon to be during half

term) and then in my office during the week, our on-site enclosure is being built by the site team. They are getting bigger daily!

On Wednesday 8th May, I received an email to say,

'I just wanted to say how polite one of your students was when getting the bus just now. I didn't ask her name...'

There were a few people with kids and, although she was the first one at the stop, she let everyone else get on first. When I said thank you to her she then



complimented my earrings. I work at a school andso thought I'd quickly send a positive'.

This demonstration of an incredible act of kindness and respect left all those involved smiling. It is always great to hear how our pupils are applying our school values beyond the school walls.

On Wednesday 15th May, out of over 17,000 applications, Mayfield was one of the schools selected for a school visit from The Body Coach and 'Lockdown Legend', Joe Wicks! (Thank you to Miss Cornwell for applying for Mayfield to be part of this exciting opportunity).

During his visit, he wished the Y6s luck and motivated them to do their best in their SATs. He also hosted a 20-minute workout with primary pupils and a select group of senior students and a Q&A session.

The importance of raising awareness of anxiety and mental health was highlighted during Mental Health Awareness Week. Pupils and staff across the school thought about ways in which they can help themselves, and each other, if they are feeling anxious. It was also great to see so many people showing their support by wearing their green ribbons and primary pupils and staff participating in workshops.

This time of the year for schools has seen pupils across the Key stages taking tests. The first being Year 6 who took their statutory KS2 tests. This led into the Year 2 KS1 tests and now the Year 11 GCSE exams. The pupils across the school have been demonstrating a positive attitude and great resilience to do their best and apply their knowledge. I have been so impressed with how both groups of pupils have approached these – a time that can be very scary but one which sees resilience, support, and ambition. They have supported each other immensely, whether that be a handshake, a good luck, or a fist pump. There is a sense of togetherness when we all understand the pressures that we and others may face. As a result,

pupils have shown care, empathy, and thoughtfulness and have approached these tests with increased confidence.

Next half-term, we look forward to meeting our new Year R, Year 3 and Year 7 pupils for their September start, welcoming our new Year 3 and Year 7 pupils during the citywide transition, plus our Year 6 residential, Sports Days, Senior Activity Week, Year 7 camp, trip to Barcelona and our Friends of Mayfield Summer Fete.

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By the time I write the next one of these, Year 11 will have finished Mayfield. Exams will be done, leavers assembly and Prom will just be memories. I want to take this opportunity to wish every one of our Year 11 pupils, the very best for the exams - they have been and will continue to be amazing!

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone, including our fabulous team of staff who have helped in and supported the events which have taken place this half term.

Thank you all for your continued support. Have a great half term break.

Mr A Howard

Headteacher

Mayfield School



House News

Endeavour

This half-term, we have welcomed Mr Hill to Endeavour House who is now our Assistant Head of House.

All of our students have been busy with exams this half-term. Pupils from Year 7 through to 10 have been/will be completing BASE assessments, and of course, our Year 11s are currently sitting their GCSEs. We would like to wish all students the best of luck, particularly Year 11, who are working incredibly hard in booster and revision sessions. We are proud of you all and have every confidence that you will get the fantastic results that you deserve!

We also wish the best of luck to Anh in her application for a Head Prefect Role.

We hope that you have a restful half-term – and hopefully get to enjoy some sunshine.

Have fun!

Miss Hutchinson

Victory

All of our students have been busy with exams this half term. All pupils from Year 7 through to 10 have been/will be completing BASE assessments, and of course our Year 11s are currently sitting their GCSEs. We would like to wish all students the best of luck, particularly Year 11, who are working incredibly hard in booster and revision sessions. We are so proud of you all and have every confidence that you will get the fantastic results that you deserve!

We have had a focus on kindness this half-term and our students have been earning some blue slips for these acts of kindness, which is something that I know we can keep up with after half term.

We hope that you have a restful half term – and hopefully get to enjoy some sunshine.

Be safe.

Mr Denford

Discovery

This half-term has seen all year groups preparing for their next set of assessments. Pupils from Years 7-10 are completing their BASE assessments in class and have been revising ready for these. Year 11 have been getting themselves prepared for the start of their GCSEs. It has been excellent to see the Year 11s attending the booster sessions and taking responsibility for their exams. We have been wishing them all the best as they complete this final hurdle in their secondary school careers.

In other news, a huge congratulations needs to go out this half term to Valeria who has successfully won the finals of the England Championships in boxing. We are so proud of her and this is a huge success. Well done Valeria.

As we move into the final half-term of the academic year we have a lot to look forward to with Sports Day and Activities Week. We are going to be focusing on getting as many achievement points as we can ready for the final cup standings at the end of the Summer Term.

Mr Flores



Intrepid

The last half-term was successful for Intrepid. Thank you for the hard work, enthusiasm and excellent conduct of our pupils. We reached first place in several individual challenges and are currently in first place for the house cup. There's still all to play for in the summer term but we are looking forward to continuing our brilliant winning streak. Well done Intrepid!

Everyone in the house has been trying hard to gather these achievement points in their lessons to continue this winning streak, and we have encouraged pupils to continue with this. We have also been collecting blue reward slips for any pupils involved in acts of kindness, and each blue slip will become a raffle ticket that may win prizes. These will be announced in assemblies.

While our Year 7-10 pupils are revising and working hard on BASE assessments and mock exams, we would like to wish our wonderful Year 11 pupils every success with their ongoing GCSE exams. They have worked incredibly hard over the past five years and have been very focused on achieving their best results. Year 11 - keep going, you're nearly at the finish line!

Intrepid, you are adventurous, loyal and focused. We can't wait to see what the next half-term will bring.

Miss Jones and Mrs Reid



Senior

Career Events



Get ready for the future you want.

This half-term, Career Education went **BIGGER AND BETTER**, and we focused on “learning outside of the classroom”, where students had the opportunity to increase their knowledge of Higher Education, work placements and what programmes are the best for them.

We started this half-term with our Year 8 pupils visiting the University of Portsmouth to understand what it is like to live as a university student. They discovered university costs and student budgeting, they had a chance to hear from a current university student and ask them questions and finally, a campus tour to see the similarities and differences between school and university.

Then, our amazing Year 9s participated in a project with the University of Portsmouth to celebrate 125 years of Portsmouth. We passed to the second stage of this programme, and they had to go to Fratton Park to present their business ideas to the manager, the university representative and to the other schools in the area. They did extremely well, and they even met the Head

Coach of Portsmouth Football Club.

Plus, our Year 9 pupils had a wonderful opportunity to meet 20 national and local employers where they practised their soft skills, exchanged ideas, broadened their connections, and discovered new opportunities regarding the labour market in the area.

Law is a very popular choice here at Mayfield, so we organised a trip to one of the most prestigious Law firms in the country (LEWIS SILKIN Law Firm) and our Year 10 pupils had the opportunity to go to Oxford and experience for themselves what it is like to be and work as a lawyer.

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Our Year 10s had an amazing day at the University of Oxford in Somerville College where we were provided with exposure to a wide range of activities. They had a tour of the college, the city, and a historical museum.

This year was the first time that KS3 went to celebrate the Creative Forces Day at the University of Portsmouth where they had the opportunity to explore their identities as young service child and how this impacts their education and relationships. They also had the opportunity to be introduced to potential future university options through immersive subject activities aimed at acquiring new knowledge and skills.

Next half-term, pupils will have the opportunity to explore their educational pathway, learn about the labour market and they will 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, or visit her in Room 104.

Mrs Munoz



Year R

Wow! What a half-term we have had in Reception! We started with duckling eggs, watched them hatch and grow into cute, fluffy ducklings and we are now keeping them as Mayfield School pets. The children were fascinated watching the caterpillars form chrysalises and transform into butterflies. We released them on a lovely sunny day and watched them fly off to find some nectar. Our trip to Longdown Activity Centre was a great way to finish off our learning about animals. The children became farmers and fed the baby animals as well as holding chicks and guinea pigs.

Mrs Bates



Year 1

Our Year 1 pupils have had another fantastic half-term, launched by our incredible trip to Marwell Zoo.

Our writing this half term has all been focused on animals and supported by our trip. First, we wrote poems about the animals that we saw at Marwell. The children thought about which were their favourites and what they looked like. Then after reading a book called 'There's an Orang-tan in My Bedroom', we wrote setting descriptions of the rainforest and ocean. The children have been trying extremely hard to think about how they can make their sentences more interesting by using ambitious vocabulary and we've been challenging them to use tricky words such as cascading.

Within Maths, we've completed units on multiplication, division and measure. We've continued to increase our use of the outside area to solve practical problems related to our mathematical learning. And when the weather hasn't been good, we haven't let that stop our practical activities and we've completed them in the classroom instead. Is that pen on the tables I spot? Shhh, don't tell anyone! We also had a look at fractions.

Science linked well with our animal theme, as we all learnt about different animal groups and what they eat. We even got to go on a bug hunt, with microscopes to look at things in detail, and found many mini-beasts.

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This then moved us to think about where the animals live, and we placed them onto an atlas to help us see where hot and cold places are.

To finish off our animal-themed half-term, we created our own animal collages, which we hope you managed to see during our gallery session.

In other news, we hope you're enjoying seeing how we are developing the Year 1 area. So far, we've increased our outside playtime resources, which the children have been thoroughly enjoying and we have new additions to our family - plants! We hope to be able to continue this development by finding some shrubs that we can plant next to the fences. If you have any, please feel free to send them our way.

Thank you for all of your continuous support, we are looking forward to being able to spend more time outside during our last half-term unit on plants.

Mrs Higgins



Year 2

This term, Year 2 has been learning all about Plants. We started by clearing our garden and preparing the ground for planting. We then sowed vegetable and plant seeds and are now waiting patiently to see how they grow and remembering to water them every day! In our Science lessons, we have learned all about how plants grow and the lifecycle of a seed and a bulb. We have also investigated if plants can be grown without soil. During our English this term, we wrote a non-chronological report about our own crazy creature and thought carefully about the habitat it lives in. We have also been retelling the story of the Ugly Duckling and enjoyed meeting our school ducks.

This half-term, our Year 2 pupils have been working really hard to prepare for our SATs tests which took place in the week commencing 6th May and the week commencing 20th May. We are so proud of the amount of hard work that the children have put in and the amount of progress that they have made. Well done, Year 2!

Mrs Pountain



Year 3

The Summer term kicked off in Year 3 very well, even if it started a little wet and windy! The children have all worked extremely hard and enjoyed their learning.

The children had a visit from a real-life Roman this half-term. We had a wonderful day where the children had the opportunity to participate in a drama workshop, build an aqueduct from just paper and even try on Roman armour. It was wonderful to see the children all dressed up, having fun and learning loads too.

In Maths this half term, the children have shown amazing resilience and continued to tackle fraction problems. Year 3 has also solved problems around learning about money and using time.

In our writing, this half term, we have written historical stories about the Romans and Celts. The children have been learning about using speech in their work and applying this to their amazing stories.

In Design and Technology this half-term, we have been looking at pop-up books. We have looked at various ways to make them and made prototypes. It is amazing what you can do with two sheets of paper!

Mr Head



Year 4

Year 4 has had a great half-term, enjoying the sunshine and preparing for the summer to arrive. In topic lessons, we have continued our study of Egyptian history, learning about the role of the river Nile, how the Egyptian kingdom changed and how it eventually collapsed. The children then began their topic on rivers and enjoyed looking at the river Nile from the point of view of geography as well as history. They have continued to study how rivers are formed and the names of the various features we can identify from photos. We are looking forward to then making links between our learning and the river walks we undertook during our Minstead residential trip.

In writing, we started the half-term by writing a narrative with a focus on other cultures - using our knowledge of ancient Egypt and Rome to make links between our lives and the lives of people in ancient times. It was great to see the children explore their history learning in their writing. We then moved on to diary writing and applying all the

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fantastic grammar skills we have been working on all half-term. The children got to watch Charlie and the Chocolate Factory before writing a diary entry as if one of the children were given a tour by Willy Wonka.

In maths, we have really enjoyed learning about decimals in great depth, exploring the links between fractions, decimals, and money. It has been great to see the children develop their knowledge and link it to our wider number system. We have enjoyed using Dienes Blocks to represent numbers, helping us to reason about maths and how we can recognise decimals and convert them to fractions. As a whole year group, we have been working very hard to prepare for the Year 4 multiplication check, enjoying using tablets and laptops to practice our tests and applying their knowledge in their maths lessons.

Finally in art, the children have been practising their skills in the style of local artist Lizzie Cornelius. They have loved exploring areas of Portsmouth local to them, sketching and then adding blocks of colour, complementing each other to stand out. We have also been exploring the idea of artistic license and how it can be used to develop individual pieces that represent our great city.

Mr Newsam

Year 5

It is hard to believe that we find ourselves finishing off the penultimate half-term of this academic year. It has been another busy six weeks in Year 5, with lots of hard work going on in the classroom, as well as some lovely learning opportunities outside.

In Geography, we have been studying rivers and the water cycle. We had the opportunity to go on a local fieldwork trip, following a river as it made its way from the source to the mouth. Luckily, the weather stayed fine, and we managed to look at the similarities and differences at different points of the river. It was great to be able to do some learning outside of the classroom.



We have been enjoying our art topic on Friday afternoons. It is great to spend the last few hours of the week being creative. In our topic, we have studied the artist, William Turner. We have learnt about colour mixing, perspectives and how to paint effectively with watercolours. At the end of the topic, we used watercolours to create a piece of artwork in the style of Turner. There were some really impressive pieces.



As well as this, we have continued with the MyHappyMind programme. This half term, we have looked at the importance of active listening and how we relate to each other. We have also enjoyed taking part in the different activities for Mental Health Awareness Week, including sponsored steps, well-being workshops and our non-school uniform day where we got the chance to wear lots of green.

We look forward to our final half term, full of lots of learning, exciting activities and sunny weather (hopefully).

Miss Lewis

Year 6

Our Year 6 pupils have had an incredibly productive half-term. We have been revising hard for our SATs tests and the children demonstrated resilience, perseverance and grit in the second to last week where they sat the exams each morning. We enjoyed a reward of doughnuts, ice creams and a class party to round off the week and can now look forward to focusing on our writing and finishing off learning about WW2 and Ernest Shackleton.

In art, the children have been designing clay dragon eyes and have used observational drawing techniques to sketch their eyes from a stimulus. They have practised sculpting clay and using various techniques to create texture and patterns for their design.

The children have been writing suspense stories based on a short animation called Alma. They study suspense writing techniques such as show-not-tell, imagery, personification and the use of figurative language to draw the reader in and convey a sense of threat and danger.

Now we have finished our exams, the children will be looking forward to applying their maths knowledge in real-life contexts and will be designing and running a zoo, learning about mortgages and managing their money effectively.

Mr Davies, Miss Leslie and Miss Gregory

School Calendar

First day back after May Half-Term: Monday 3rd June 2024

Summer Holidays: Thursday 25th August - Monday 2nd September 2024

JUNE

3rd June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
4th June	Year R Parents Induction Evening
10th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
11th June	Year 3 Parents Induction Evening
20th June	Senior Presentation Evening
21st June	INSET Day
21st June	Year 11 Leavers Day
24th June	Senior PD Day 4
26th - 27th June	Year 10 Geography Trip

JULY

1st - 2nd July	Primary and Year 7 Induction Days
2nd July	Year 7 Induction Evening
4th July	Year 11 Prom
8th July	Primary Sports Day
15th - 18th July	Year 7 Camp
15th - 17th July	Year 6 Residential
16th July	Year 2 End of KS2 Performance
19th July	Senior Sports Day

JULY

22nd - 24th July

Activities Week

23rd July

Year 6 End of KS2 Performance



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