

HT Message

Following on from our recent open evening and open days we are offering parents and carers of children joining Year R and 3 in September 2020 the opportunity to visit the school during the working day. To arrange a tour, or for any help with the admissions process, please email our admissions team on admissions@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Please note that parents or carers of pupils with a child in our Pre-School must apply for a place in Year R in the normal way. For more information about life at Mayfield, please download a copy of our admission booklet [here](#) and admission policy [here](#). Alternatively, visit for the school admissions page at Portsmouth City Council by following this link:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/learning-and-schools/schools/school-admissions.aspx>

If you would like to become involved with supporting the school then why not consider joining the 'Friends of Mayfield'? The FOM are a group of like-minded volunteers who run a number of events throughout the year to raise funds for the school. The time commitment can be as much or as little as you can spare. For more information please email fom@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

On Monday 11th November we will be running a special series of assemblies to commemorate 'Remembrance Day 2019'. We would encourage all pupils to consider wearing a 'poppy' in support of the Royal British Legion's annual appeal. Poppies are for sale from Pupil Services during break and Lunch. They will also be sold during lesson time for pupils in our Primary Section.

Finally, I hope you agree with me that the trajectory for our school is a very positive one. However, we do recognise that, from time to time, parents or carers may have cause for complaint. If you are unhappy about any aspect of the work of the school then please email Mrs. Fiona Rogers, Assistant Headteacher on, RogersF@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk outlining the nature of your concern.

The Governing Body has a few policies which they have asked me to draw to your attention:

- Complaints;
- Safeguarding;
- Whistle Blowing.

To help you plan your time, we have provided a list of key dates for the Autumn 2 half term [here](#).

Head of Senior (Miss. Hillier)

This week we celebrated over 70 students who have applied to become Young Leaders. This is a prestigious role in the school which develops student's leadership skills and sense of responsibility. Young Leaders do duties around the school and support at extracurricular events. All successful applicants received a badge and certificate in assembly this week. Well done to all of them!

Thursday was our annual IGNITE conference. We were delighted to welcome two visitors into school, Capt. Mike Davis Marks OBE and Gemma Little, University of Reading, to talk to the pupils. It was great to hear what they had to say to motivate our most able pupils. Thank you to all of our own staff who worked hard to produce these sessions; Mr Jackson, Mr Batchelor and Mr Ralls. The feedback from the pupils was very positive.

A final reminder that Year 11 start their mock exams next week. The timetable is available on our website [here](#). They are all ready and have had the process clearly explained to them. Before

Mathematics, English and Science lessons there will be morning revision sessions which start at 8:10am so please make sure your child sets their alarm clock earlier on those days!

Please note that on Saturday 9th November the following colleges have open days:

Highbury College - 10-1pm

Havant and South Downs - 10-1pm

Chichester College 10-1pm

It is a great opportunity for pupils to look at some of the options they have post 16.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that the only piercings we allow are a single earring in each earlobe. All other piercings should be removed before coming to school to avoid issues.

We welcome all our pupils into school on the gate and check for pen, pencil and planner. In addition, Years 7-10 must have a reading book with them every day and Year 11 have their revision folder. Could I ask that you encourage your child to check their bag every morning before setting off to school to make sure that they have all of the required items- particularly their reading book. Thank you for your support with this.

Head of Primary (Mr. Stedman)

Year 1 had an amazing Superhero Day on Monday to launch their topic for this half-term. There were so many fantastic costumes including the comic book characters and some real-life superheroes such as doctors, nurses, policemen and firefighters. Thank you for your help in making this such a memorable and successful day.

Thank you to all of the parents and other relatives who came into the various Family Learning sessions this week. It means so much to the children that you are able to come and share their work with them and the teachers are always appreciative of having some extra adult helpers in the lessons. I hope that you have found these sessions to be helpful in developing your understanding of how children are taught at school and how you can help at home. The next Family Learning Week will be in March 2020.

I have been really proud of our Year 2 School Councillors for their tremendous work in selling the Remembrance Poppies each morning. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Poppy Appeal so far.



We will be joining with the Seniors in our Houses on Monday for our special Remembrance Assemblies, with the first assembly for Victory House starting just after 8.45am. Therefore, can you please make sure that you are at school for a prompt start to the school day at 8.45am on Monday.

We have two very exciting themed weeks next week. Firstly, it is Maths Week when we will all be joining in with a series of activities to show our love of Maths including a world record attempt for the biggest ever Maths lesson. Parents are also invited to come along to our Maths Extravaganza in the Sports Hall on Wednesday from 3.30 till 4.30pm.

Next week is also Anti-Bullying Week and Mrs Moore spoke to the children in assembly about this year's Odd Socks Day on Tuesday 12th November. On this day, the children are encouraged to wear odd socks to represent the diversity that exists in our school community and to reinforce the message that it is ok to be different. The children will also be doing activities and having special assemblies throughout the week linked to the theme of anti-bullying.

On Friday 15th November, the Primary section will be supporting the BBC Children in Need Day with a non-uniform day. The theme for the day is either spots or pyjamas and your child can choose to wear non-uniform in return for a £1 voluntary donation that can be passed to the class teacher in the morning. Our Year 3 School Councillors have also organised a 'Guess The Sweets In A Jar' competition to take place outside the Year 3 classrooms before school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. I hope that you will be able to support this charitable initiative.

Finally, the weather has turned significantly colder since we have returned from the half-term holidays. It is therefore important that child wears a coat to school every day and they start to get winter ready with a hat and gloves. Thank you in advance for your support.

Letters sent home this week:

- Year 5 Harry Potter trip
- Anti-bullying week and Children in Need letter

Head of Pre-school and Nursery

Welcome back after the half term. This last part of the academic year will be an extremely busy time in class.

Rehearsals have already started for this year's Christmas Nativity - you should have already received your flyer with regard to your children's costume.

The class topic will now change and for the next two weeks we shall be learning about Spiders. We shall support the children to use different reference sources to find out information, looking at the different varieties of spiders, and the country they can be found in.

Learning intentions linked to class subject:

- Finding out about the different species of spiders using different reference sources for our information;
- Design a web using a range of techniques;
- Sort spiders into sets;

- Use language to join in and anticipate key events and phrases in rhymes and stories.

Letter sound this week will be 'H' please find time to support your children in creating a collage and bring back into class. This activity promotes language skills and builds up their vocabulary.

Dates for diary:

School Photographer in Tuesday 12th November;

Parent Evening Thursday 14th November;

Christmas Nativity Preschool Thursday 12th December.