

HT Message

I would like to reassure our whole community that we are monitoring closely the situation with respect to the COVID – 19 virus and the potential impact on the school and any trips. At the moment, the risk level is “moderate” and therefore it is “business as usual”. The UK Government have made it clear that no school should close in response to suspected COVID – 19 cases unless directed to do so by Public Health England. The best advice we can give is to regularly and thoroughly keep your hands clean by washing with soap and hot water.

Please be aware that a new helpline has been launched by the Department for Education specifically aimed at staff, parents and pupils with concerns about COVID - 19:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Consequently, all school activities including trips and visits are scheduled to take place. As the situation evolves, we will, of course, be in touch.

We enjoyed celebrating World Book Day on Thursday across the school and are using this as a launch for an exciting Community Project. We are asking people who have memories of Mayfield or Northern Grammar to share them with us so we can compile them. There is a letter on our website [here](#) and submissions should be sent to barnes@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk by the end of March. If you know anyone who has attended our school at any point who would like to contribute, we would be grateful if you could let them know of this opportunity.

Please note, our school will be closed to all pupils on the following INSET and Decant Days with further dates announced by February 2021:

Friday 19 th June 2020
Thursday 3 rd September 2020
Friday 4 th September 2020
Monday 7 th September 2020
Thursday 8 th October 2020
Friday 27 th November 2020
Monday 18 th January 2021

To help our families plan their time, we have produced an extract of the school calendar containing all of the key dates for Spring 2. This can be downloaded [here](#).

Head of Seniors (Miss. Louise Hillier)

The week beginning 9th March 2020 is a week B
The Theme of the week is Liberty- My Rights in Britain

The Year 8 Options process is underway and the selection process is completed on-line. The link to the form that you need to complete is on our website [here](#). If you have any questions regarding options please contact Mrs Cleary on clearya@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

The Year 10 Prefect application process is open and completed forms must be returned to Mrs Denford by 3pm on Thursday 19th March. The pupils will then be interviewed by Heads of Houses to select the Prefect team for next year. From the Prefect body the Senior Prefects will be chosen by the whole school body.

Well done to Year 11 who have completed their last set of Mock exams- with just English Literature to go on Monday 16th March. All pupils in Year 11 should have a revision timetable and should be revising daily. Information about revision is available on our website [here](#).

To support our Year 11, we are offering revision sessions over the Easter holiday. The Easter revision programme is now available to sign up for. A copy of the timetable is on our website [here](#). The sign-up process will be explained to the pupils in Year 11 assembly on Monday. We are very grateful to all the staff who are giving up their time to offer these sessions to our pupils.

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 should be working on their Spring 2 Prep projects. These are on our website [here](#). In their planner, each child should have a set of interim deadlines that they are working to- please check these and encourage your child to complete each section on time. Staff will be checking work throughout the half-term. If you have any questions about Prep, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance. A full list of tutors is available on the website [here](#).

We will be running a Saturday detention on 28th March for any pupil who has gained 5 or more Red Parks between Monday 9th March and Friday 20th March. Please let your child know this as we would like nobody to qualify to attend.

We would like all our children to be smartly dressed for school. In particular we would like to remind you that trousers should be smart school trousers- not leggings or jeggings or jeans. Shoes must be plain black and polishable. Thank you for your support with this.

Head of Primary (Mr. Matt Stedman)

World Book Day is always one of the highlights of our school year and everyone thoroughly enjoyed yesterday's celebration of our favourite books. The children's costumes were full of creativity and it was great that so many parents were able to join us to share a story first thing. Thank you to all of the parents for helping us to make this such a memorable day!



We are now looking forward to the travelling Book Fair which is due to be at Mayfield from Thursday 12th to Tuesday 17th March. Reading really is the key to success for every child and I hope that World Book Day will inspire the children to keep up their reading at home at least five times per week.

Year 4 have continued to do themselves proud this week as the Yangtze class headed off to Minstead on their residential. I was very impressed with how the children rose to the challenge of being away from home and engaged so enthusiastically with all of the activities in the New Forest. Each activity focused on one of our 'R's and it was lovely to see the children developing their confidence in each of these areas. Well done Year 4!

Yangtze class said goodbye to Mrs Harker at the end of their residential. Following a handover period last week, Mrs Emery has now picked up this class and will be taking the two Parents Evenings next week. We are also saying 'goodbye and thank you' to Miss Brock at the end of next week as she leaves us to take up a new role as an ELSA at another school.



Our year of sporting success continued this week when our Year 4 and 5 football team won the Portsmouth Schools Football Tournament, competing against teams from 20 other schools. The standard of play was incredibly high and our team went unbeaten throughout the tournament, clinching the trophy by beating Northern Parade 2-1 in the final. Well done to all of the team and Mr Tait and Mr Button the coaches!



One of our ambitions for our pupils is that they get to learn to play a musical instrument as they progress into the Junior Section. Pupils in the current Year 2 will be given a letter next week to express an interest in learning either guitar, violin, drums, singing or piano/keyboard. A copy of this letter can be found [here](#). Please can I have all returns by Monday 23rd March to ensure that we are able to book enough tutors to meet the demand for next year.

Please can I remind parents that our Parents Evenings are scheduled for Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th March from 4.00 – 7.00pm. The appointments take place in the Main Hall and parents should come into the school via the main Reception. If you have not done so already, please make sure that you have booked your appointment via the Online Booking System [here](#).

Finally, can I please remind parents and adults that dogs are not allowed in the playgrounds, even if they are being carried. Some children are very frightened of dogs and we want every child to be able to come into school without feeling anxious or afraid. Thank you in advance for your support and co-operation.

Head of Pre-school and Nursery

Our topic will continue with 'Spring' and this week's subject is looking at growth. We will be discussing and identifying factors that could affect growth. The children will create a care plan for the seedlings that they plant and record changes as the seedlings grow.

Learning intentions linked to class subject are:

- Demonstrate an understanding of what a seed needs to grow;
- Make comparisons;
- Make accurate observations;
- Record findings with mark making implements.

Letter sound for the week is 'U'. Please make a collage with your children, this activity promotes lots of language and can introduce new vocabulary. We look forward to seeing their lovely work in class.

Finally, we have the school photographer in on Tuesday 10th March at 9am for a class photograph – can all children please attend. This will only be for the children in preschool on this occasion.