

## **HT Message**

And so it begins! On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November, Kier formally took possession of the East Field to begin the construction phase of the new build. Please see below a newsletter from them regarding the initial works. Currently, we are expecting to move into the new building in July 2021. I would like to once again reassure all members of our community that my key priority is to ensure that these works do not negatively impact our current pupils.

As is customary at Mayfield, we are planning to offer all pupils a traditional Christmas lunch in the last week of this half term. Pupils who are in receipt of 'free school meals' will not have to make any further contribution; this includes all pupils in Years R, 1 and 2. We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £2.10 for all other pupils which can be made via the 'parent pay' system for Seniors or 'sco-pay' for Years 3, 4 and 5.

Rehearsals are in full swing for this year's school production, which is 'High School Musical'. We have a number of performances scheduled on 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets cost £6 for adults and £4 for children. All payments should be made via our 'sco-pay' system. Tickets will be issued directly to pupils via the school office.

'The Friends of Mayfield' (FOM) are a group of like-minded volunteers who organise a number of activities to raise funds for the school. The time commitment is as little or as much as you can spare. If you are interested in finding out more about the FOM then please email, Mrs. Judith Firth on [FirthJ@Mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:FirthJ@Mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

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

Finally, I would like to remind you that we have an INSET Day for staff training on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November and therefore the school will be closed to all pupils.

## **Head of Seniors (Miss. Louise Hillier)**

Our week started with the school coming together for Remembrance Day and our customary House Assemblies. All our pupils showed great respect during the occasions and I was very proud of them. Next week we will be giving out letters to Years 9 and 11 to inform parents of the upcoming sex and relationships units in these year groups. For most students, this will begin in the Spring term, but some are starting earlier. Parents will have been informed by text if their child has already started an SRE unit. A link to those letters is on our website [here](#). Any questions about the contents of the lesson or the SRE policy can be directed to Miss Rachael Colmer on [Colmer-Rachael@mayfield.portsmout.sch.uk](mailto:Colmer-Rachael@mayfield.portsmout.sch.uk).

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November we have our Year 10 Parents Evening from 4pm to 7pm. Booking is available online through the link on our website [here](#). Please do take the opportunity to come along and discuss the progress your child is making in these very important GCSE years- we look forward to welcoming you.

Year 11 have started their mock exams very well and these continue for another couple of weeks. There are morning revision sessions before every Mathematics, English and Science exam so the pupils need to be in school at 8:15am to access these. They are a great opportunity to warm up their brains before they sit the exam papers. A copy of the mock exam timetable is on our website [here](#).

Years 7 and 8 are working on their Autumn 2 Prep projects. Copies of these can be found on our website [here](#). I would like to take the opportunity to remind you that Homework Club is available every night in room 151. All children are very welcome to attend and there is internet and computer access for any students who need them.

Can I please take the opportunity to remind you that shoes for school need to be black and polishable. As the weather is decidedly less pleasant a coat is sensible for wearing to and from school, but coats, scarves and gloves need to be removed inside the building.

**Head of Primary (Mr. Matt Stedman)**

We started the week by joining the Seniors in our Houses for our annual Remembrance Assemblies. I was very proud of the children's reflective and respectful behaviour throughout these assemblies. Thank you to all of the parents who supported the Poppy Appeal and the Year 2 School Councillors who organised the selling of the poppies with such enthusiasm.

On Monday afternoon, we built on our record of sporting success when our Year 2 Gymnastics Team triumphed at the Portsmouth Gymnastics Festival. Our team only had a short time to prepare their routine and they did so well to bring back the trophy.



Our Sporting endeavours will continue next week with our Year 1 Dance Team entering the Portsmouth Dance Festival. I am sure that they will all do themselves proud!

This week, we have been focussing on Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need. It was great to see that so many children took part in Odd Socks Day on Tuesday to celebrate our own individuality and diversity. Our Year 4 School Councillors have also done a tremendous job in organising the 'Guess the Sweets in a Jar' and 'Name the Teddy' competitions for Children in Need. The winners of these competitions will be announced later today!

We have also enjoyed Maths Week this week, particularly the Maths Extravaganza after school on Wednesday. We had some fantastic entries in the Maths photo competition and I know that Miss Large struggled to choose a winner for each category.

Next week is National Road Safety Week and we will be talking about this very important issue in assemblies and PSHE lessons. Each class in the Junior Section will be choosing a Junior Road Safety Officer to raise the profile of road safety throughout the year. As we head into the darker winter months, it is really important that the children are wearing bright visible coats so that they can be easily seen on the way to and from school. It is also important that children who cycle or scooter to school get into the habit of wearing a helmet. This will become compulsory from January 2020 and children will not be allowed to bring their bikes on to the school site if they are not wearing a helmet.

Finally, I know that many children are waiting for their Stomper toys after completing the Stomper Challenge in the summer holidays. I have heard from Portsmouth City Council that there has been another delay in these toys being shipped and they are now due in school at the end of November. Thank you for your patience!

Letters sent home this **week**:

Dolphins Staffing Changes

#### **Head of Pre-school and Nursery**

Please can I remind you to send your children into school with named coat, hat and gloves as we play outside daily.

The topic will continue with the theme spiders – we have been looking at their habitats and different species.

Learning intentions linked to class topic are:

- Sort spiders into sets;
- Design a web;
- Complete a spider life cycle;
- Have a positive approach to activities;
- Demonstrate increasing skill and control in the use of mark making implements.

Letter sound is 'I' – please take time to support your children in creating a collage, this activity promotes language skills and introduces new words to build your children's vocabulary. Please don't forget to bring these back to class so we can share and display their work.

Dates for your diary:

Christmas Nativity Preschool – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Nativity Nursery – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Party – 20<sup>th</sup> December from 10am till 1pm – school closed