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October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very pleased to share with you that we have made an excellent start to the new year and the schools more settled and focussed than ever. By now, you will be aware that our Summer GCSE results have surpassed expectations and Mayfield is now one of the best schools in the city in terms of KS4 progress. Standards in our Primary Section continue to be strong and well above national averages. By the end of October, you have received your child’s report. If you have not, then please contact their class teacher in Primary or Tutor in Seniors. A list of email addresses can be found on our website.

**Christmas Dinner 2019**

As is now customary at Mayfield, we will be inviting every pupil to enjoy a festive lunch within their house group. We are requesting a voluntary donation of £2.20 per pupil to cover the costs of running this event. Parents/carers should make their payment via our ‘Scopay’ system. Pupils in receipt of a free school meal or in Years R, 1 and 2 need make no further contribution.

**Primary Summer Uniform**

Can I please remind parents that the time frame for Primary children to wear the summer uniform ends at October half-term. Please can you ensure that your child is in the normal school uniform when we return after the half-term holidays. Can you also please ensure that hair bands or bows are in the school colours of blue or black and that they are of a reasonable size. Jumbo ‘JoJo’ bows are not permitted. As we head into the winter months, it is also important that children wear a warm coat to school so that they can continue to spend their lunchtime and play times outside.

**Primary Section Family Learning Week**

During the week beginning 4th November, parents of children in the primary section are invited to visit and take part in a variety of lessons delivered in their child’s class. These sessions will give you the opportunity to find out how things are taught in our school whilst working alongside your child. Places in these sessions can be booked via the Online Booking System from Monday 21st October onwards. The timings and sessions for Family Learning Week are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Tuesday 5th November | Wednesday 6th November | Thursday 7th November | Friday 8th November |
| 9.00am | Year R Reading and PhonicsYear 3 MathsYear 2 English | Year 1 English | Year R Reading and PhonicsYear 4 English | Year 4 Maths |
| 10.45am |  | Year 5 MathsYear 3 English | Year 5 English | Year 2 Maths |
| 1.15pm | Year 5 TopicYear 1 TopicYear 3 Music | Year R Reading and PhonicsYear 4 Topic | Year 1 Maths Year 3 TopicYear 2 Topic |  |
| After school | Year 2 Information Meeting |  | Year 1 Information Meeting |  |

**Independent Revision**

As you may have seen on Facebook and Twitter over the last few week’s we have continued to launch our independent revision seminars to senior pupils this half term. Pupils have continued to be shown the work of the Learning Scientists, a group of cognitive psychological scientists, who have identified through research six effective learning strategies (more details of which can be found at <http://www.learningscientists.org/>).  This half term we are focussing on the skill of Elaboration - this involves pupils having to explain what they have learned in more detail, thus strengthening their understanding and learning of a topic. Why not help your child with this skill by asking them to explain what they have learned at school each day?

**Year 7 e-book**

Mayfield School believes reading good books is important and we want to let you know about an exciting development. As well as the many excellent “real” books available to enjoy from school, your child will now be offered access to a library of e-Books as well. The e-Book library will aim to promote reading for pleasure by providing a broad range of fiction and some leisure non-fiction for each pupil to choose and read independently.

Your child will be given their own username and password to access an online library of books which is made available to us by the School Library Service (SLS). The books have been chosen by SLS to be suitable for our age group and we know that there will be many great books to enjoy. You can preview the e-Books at www.portsmouth.wheelers.co

* Each user can select one book at a time and has three weeks to read it;
* The child can return the book early to select another book if they wish;
* The e-Book library offers children a different reading experience and will help to further inspire reading for pleasure.

The e-Book library operates within a web browser so they will be able to read at home on any device which gives access to the internet, such as a laptop, tablet or smart phone.

Unfortunately, the Amazon Kindle will not be able to access our e-Book library as Amazon uses its own non-standard file type. However, the Kindle Fire will work as it gives internet access via the Silk web browser.

Please encourage your child to participate fully in this new opportunity.

**Reporting on Progress**

**Academic Report Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11):**

For pupils in Year 11 the report will show you a predicted grade for the end of year 11. We recognise that it is important that pupils, teachers and home all understand exactly where they are. For this reason, we add extra information to their grade to show how secure they are at that level. A summary of this is below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| New GCSE  | Description | Example |
| XA | A pupil is secure at this grade. They need no intervention to achieve it providing they revise and work hard in lessons. They should aim to work for the grade above. | 4A in Maths |
| XB | A pupil is working at this grade but will require some support and intervention to secure it. If they revise and work in lessons, as well as engaging with the support offered, they should achieve this grade. | 5B in English |
| XC | A pupil is not secure at this grade and will require significant support to achieve it. They will need to prioritise revision in this subject and work very hard in lessons. They will receive extra support and help. | 6C in History |

Note: For pupils completing Vocational options the predicted grade will appear as below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Predicted Grade | GCSE equivalent |
| F | Fail | U |
| 1P | Level 1 Pass | 1 |
| 1M | Level 1 Merit | 2 |
| 1D | Level 1 Distinction | 3 |
| 2P | Level 2 Pass | 4 |
| 2M | Level 2 Merit | 5/6 |
| 2D | Level 2 Distinction | 7  |
| 2D\* | Level 2 Distinction\* | 8/9 |

**Pupils in Year 10 will receive a ‘RAG’ rating to show how likely it is that they will reach their minimum expectation and remain on track to achieve their expectation in their subject in Year 11. Pupils who have a RAG of Red or Amber will be receiving personalised interventions to support them in order to reach their minimum expectation at the end of year 11. Pupils who are Green are working well and on track and should be trying to push themselves to reach the next grade. Pupils with a blue rating are currently working exceptionally well and are on track to exceed their minimum expectation at the end of year 11.**

**This information will be communicated to you across the year, timed around key assessment points like the ‘Mayfield’ exams and subject assessments. You can expect to receive an academic report on your child in the following half terms:**

* Year 10: Autumn 1, Spring 1, Summer 1
* Year 11: Every half term

**Academic Report Key Stage 3 (Year 7 and 8):**

Pupils in Year 8 will receive a ‘RAG’ rating to show how likely it is that they will reach their expectation and remain on track to achieve their expectation in their subject by the end of the year. Pupils who have RAG of Red or Amber will be receiving personalised interventions to support them in order to reach their expectation at the end of the year. Pupils who are Green are working well and on track to achieve their end of year expectation. Pupils with a blue rating are currently working exceptionally well and are on track to exceed their expectation at the end of the year.

This information will be communicated to you across the year, timed around key assessment points like the ‘Mayfield’ exams and subject assessments. You can expect to receive an academic report on your child in the following half terms:

* Year 8: Autumn 1, Spring 1, Summer 1
* Year 7: Autumn 2, Spring 2, Summer 1

**Academic Report Primary (Year R-5):**

Pupils will receive a ‘RAG’ rating to show how likely it is that they will reach their expectation and remain on track to achieve their expectation in their subject by the end of the year. Pupils who have RAG of Red or Amber will be receiving personalised interventions to support them in order to reach their expectation at the end of the year. Pupils who are Green are working well and on track to achieve their end of year expectation. Pupils with a blue rating are currently working exceptionally well and are on track to exceed their expectation at the end of the year.

This information will be communicated to you across the year, timed around key assessment points like the ‘Mayfield’ exams and subject assessments. You can expect to receive an academic report on your child every half term.

**PASTORAL Reports (Years R to 11):**

In order to keep you informed and ensure you get a good picture of your child’s progress we will send home Pastoral information every half term. These reports will summarise the following information:

* Attendance data;
* Total Achievement points;
* Total Behaviour points;
* Reading information (Primary only);
* Attitude to Learning grades (using the 1-4 grades).

Grade 1: Pupils with outstanding attitude to learning are role models for other pupils. They:

* Are eager to learn and take full responsibility for their own learning
* Independently behave in a way which consistently helps themselves and others to learn

Grade 2: Pupils with a good attitude to learning work hard and are positive about their learning. They:

* Complete work on time and to a good standard
* Listen to and follow instructions so themselves and others can learn

Grade 3: Pupils who need to improve their attitude to learning are coasting and should aim even higher to fulfil their potential. They:

* Can require frequent reminders to focus on learning
* Can be slow to respond to instructions

Grade 4: Pupils who attitude to learning is causing serious concern neglect their school work and are falling behind. They:

* Regularly behave in a way which prevents themselves and others from learning
* Often do not complete work to a satisfactory standard.

**Staffing Update**

**Ian Willmett, HLTA ICT and Computing, is leaving the school at half-term. We wish him well for his future endeavours. We are welcoming Miss Clara Smallwood as a teacher of ICT and Computing.**

Finally, I would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support and wish you a pleasant half term break.

Best wishes



**D Jeapes
Headteacher**

*‘Our only limitation is our ambition’*



 **Headteacher Mr. David Jeapes**

