

23th January 2026

Mayfield Messenger

A message from Mr Howard

Dear families,

We were delighted to welcome the Deputy Director of Education for Children, Families and Education to our school this week. During their morning visit, they toured both our primary and secondary phases, spending time in classrooms to observe teaching and learning and speaking with staff and students. We were extremely pleased that his feedback was highly complementary.

He shared: "Thank you so much for your time yesterday. I really enjoyed the visit and seeing the great work of you and your staff. It was clear that you have made significant progress, and the positive relationships between staff and children shone through."

This recognition reflects our shared ambition for continual improvement and the respectful, inclusive relationships that underpin our school community.

Our ongoing partnership with Rivers C of E Trust continues to strengthen teaching and learning in the primary phase. During the learning walk, strong practice was evident, including choral response, partnered talk and cold calling (no hands up), all of which support inclusive participation and high expectations for every child.

In secondary, students have attended assemblies focused on our literacy drive and the purpose behind it. Building on our work to develop confident oracy through the modes of learning, we are now moving into the next stage with Reading in Action. This will place a strong emphasis on reading aloud, reading routinely, thinking aloud and explicitly teaching vocabulary, reinforcing our commitment to ambitious learning for all.

I look forward to sharing further updates as this work continues to embed.

I wish you all a great weekend.

#Believe. Achieve. Succeed. #TeamMayfield



Exploring Future Pathways Through Languages

Where can languages take you? A group of Year 9 and 10 pupils explored this question during an inspiring visit to the University of Portsmouth, discovering what it's really like to study languages at university. They experienced the university's state-of-the-art interpreting suite and heard first-hand stories from people who have lived and studied abroad. The visit gave our students plenty to think about as they consider their next steps.

Holocaust Memorial Webcast 2026

Yesterday, to mark Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January), some of our pupils took part in the 2026 Holocaust Education Trust webcast featuring Holocaust survivor Paul Sved BEM. Paul shared a powerful first-hand account of his experiences during the Holocaust, alongside reflections from his son, Richard, on growing up as the child of a survivor and the importance of passing these stories on to future generations. The session deepened pupils' understanding of history, resilience, remembrance, and human rights. We are proud of the maturity and attentiveness shown by pupils throughout this meaningful learning experience.



THE SALTERNS TRUST INVITES YOU TO AN EVENING OF FOOD, CULTURE AND FRIENDSHIP

Join us to celebrate our rich cultural heritages and share food, language, music and traditions, fostering community connections among families from across the Salterns Trust Schools in Portsmouth.

Come along and make new friends, while sharing cultural experiences and enjoying a variety of delicious dishes provided by our community.

This is a free event, open to families from our Trust schools.

**We would ask that guests bring pre-prepared food (there is no cooking or heating on site), so that everyone can enjoy the evening's offerings in safety.



DATE: 17 MARCH 2026
6.30PM - 8.00PM

**LOCATION: TRAFALGAR
SCHOOL IN THE MAIN HALL**

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST [HERE](#)
TICKETS ARE LIMITED SO PLEASE ENSURE YOU REGISTER BY
FRIDAY 27TH FEBRUARY

ANY QUESTIONS?

PLEASE CONTACT ELLE SMITH ON ESMITH@SALTERNS.ORG

We anticipate this will be a very popular and uplifting event,
and we would love to involve as many of you as possible.

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Friends of Mayfield presents

• YEARS 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 DISCOS

TUESDAY 17th MARCH
Tickets £5

TICKETS ON SALE

FEBRUARY 2nd, 3rd, 4th 3:15 and 4:15pm,
and 9th, 10th, 11th 3:15 and 4:15pm.

Please note we can only accept
CASH payments.

To keep up to date with our events
see our Facebook page -
Friends of Mayfield Portsmouth



UNIVERSITY of
PORTSMOUTH

STARGAZING 2026

Join us for our annual
stargazing event!

Wednesday 28 January
Portland Building, PO1 3AH
18:00 to 20:30 - with entry at
18:00 and 19:00

PORT.AC.UK/STARGAZING

DISCOVER MORE
AND BOOK



Share your child's success outside of Mayfield

If your child/ren have achieved something over the weekend
or during the week, please share a picture and a brief
description of the success. This could appear in the next
Mayfield Messenger. Please send these to general.mayfield@salterns.org

We look forward to seeing you all again next week. Have a lovely
weekend!