

26th September 2025

Mayfield Messenger

A message from Mr Howard

Dear parents and carers,

It has been another busy and rewarding week at Mayfield. Across the school, teachers and leaders have been working together to review results, set new targets, and refine our plans to further improve outcomes for all students. This reflects our value of ambition—always striving for the very best for our young people.

In secondary, staff have continued their training on modes of learning—an approach designed to develop children as confident talkers. Some students have already experienced assemblies exploring what this looks like in lessons (and on the sports field or in the PE hall) and why this way of working is so valuable in supporting them as learners. This initiative is about inclusion, ensuring every child has the skills and confidence to contribute their voice.

On Thursday, it was a real pleasure to welcome our Year 7 families to the 'Meet the Tutor' evening. Building these strong relationships from the start helps us to nurture respect between students, staff and families, which lies at the heart of our community.

This week also marks an important moment in our school's story. After 26 years of dedicated service, our wonderful site manager, Mr Ray Old, is retiring. Ray's loyalty and commitment to Mayfield have been extraordinary. Over the years, he has supported countless staff and students, played a key role in our move to the current building, and was deservedly recognised with a long-service award at the Teach Portsmouth Awards. His contribution shows what it means to live out our values of ambition, inclusion and respect every day. We will all miss his expertise and good humour, and I am sure you will join me in wishing him a long and happy retirement.

At the same time, I am delighted to introduce our new site manager, Mr Alex Doolan. Since the start of term, Alex has been learning the ropes quickly and getting to know the ins and outs of our school. I know that you will all give him the warm welcome that makes Mayfield such a respectful and inclusive community.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

#Believe. Achieve. Succeed. #TeamMayfield





Help Primary Transform Lunchtimes Through Play!



We're making big moves to make lunchtimes more fun, creative, and inspiring for our Primary children – and we need **YOUR** help!

We're on the lookout for 'loose parts' – everyday items that spark imagination and endless play possibilities. Instead of throwing things out, why not give them a second life at school?

We're looking for donations of:

- Dressing Up Fun – hats, scarves, jazzy shirts, old costumes
- Construction Materials – tyres, pallets, cable drums, guttering, crates
- Household Bits & Bobs – pots, pans, wooden spoons, baking trays
- Toys & Imaginative Play – Lego, toy cars, dinosaurs, farm animals, action figures
- Pre-loved Coats & Wellies – all sizes welcome for all-weather play!
- Other Exciting Things – traffic cones, pool noodles, old road signs, old prams, vacuum cleaners

Drop-off Point: Main Reception – just let them know it's for Primary Play. Larger items? Email cainsworth.mayfield@salterns.org

Your donations will help us create amazing, open-ended play experiences where children can explore, build, imagine, and thrive. **THANK YOU** for being part of this exciting journey!

Mayfield's Cruise Adventure!

Year 7 RE lessons are off to an immersive start! Students step into the roles of characters embarking on a cruise ship adventure that takes a tragic turn. Through this experience, they will explore the essential skills needed for survival and gain insight into how religion can provide strength and support, even in the most challenging and desperate moments.



From Classrooms to Connections!

Three Year 9 pupils participated in a Zoom call with students from a school in Maizuru, Japan, for a cultural exchange. The pupils started presenting about their school and local area, but ended up discussing their favourite singers and laughing about normal teenage things. Long may this intercultural friendship continue.

Catch the bus for **FREE**

in Portsmouth every weekend in September...



...your weekend just got better!

Friends of Mayfield



Friends of Mayfield, Annual
General Meeting, held Monday
15th September in Cafe Tranquillo.

Friends of Mayfield is a group of parents, grandparents and staff. Our purpose is to put on events to bring the school community together whilst raising money to help enrich our children's learning.

At our AGM on Monday 15th September, two of our long-standing committee members made the decision to retire from their volunteering roles. We thank Christine Shepherd and Sheila Atkins for all their dedication, hard work and friendship over the years. We will miss them and their positive 'we can do that' attitudes!

We have had lots of School requests over the academic year 2024/25, which we have provided funding for, including; instruments for the music department, visualisers for the Maths department, badge & t-shirt printer for Dance & Arts, professional 9 a-side goals for PE, sensory equipment & plants for the Key Stage 1 outside area as well as books & tablets for the early years.

Now that we have lost two of our most dedicated members, our committee has only 5 members. To help Friends of Mayfield continue putting on events and raising funds for the children, we need YOU!

We are holding our first committee meeting of the year on Monday 3rd of November, at 6pm in the School.

We would love new members/helpers, so if you can help us in any way, with whatever little time you have, we would love to meet you. All our members are busy people, juggling family, home, work & children's clubs so please come & see what we can do together!

If we do not recruit more volunteers at the November meeting, sadly the committee will have to make some tough decisions about our future.

We would like to thank you for supporting our events. You have helped fund so many departments across the school, and we really hope we can continue this.

We hope you will join us on Monday the 3rd of November, 6pm, we will meet at the school reception desk.

(If you would like to contact us, please email Friendsofmayfield@salterns.org)

Mayfield School
Believe • Achieve • Succeed
proudly presents
MUSIC SHOWCASE
Wednesday 22nd October 2025
If you wish to take part please see Miss Nation or Mr Houghton

Upcoming Showcase - 22nd October



We're excited to announce that our annual Music Showcase will be held on Tuesday 22nd October! This is a fantastic opportunity for students to share their musical talents—whether you sing, play an instrument, or are part of a band or ensemble, we'd love to see you on stage.

If you're interested in performing, please speak to Mr Houghton or Mrs Nation as soon as possible to register your interest and discuss your performance. Thank you for your support with this.

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.portsmouth.sch.uk

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