

3rd October 2025



Mayfield Messenger

A message from Mr Howard

Dear parents and carers,

This half term has already seen a number of important developments and events across our school, all reflecting the hard work of both staff and students.

We were delighted to welcome our CEO for a learning walk, which provided an opportunity to reflect on the progress we have made as a school. The visit highlighted the positive start we have made in embedding key teaching strategies, including the use of cold calling (no hands up and targeted questioning), reducing cognitive load, and creating meaningful opportunities for oracy. These approaches are already making a difference to the way our students learn and engage in lessons.

Year 11 have made a particularly strong start to the year, and this was evident at our recent Year 11 evening. The event brought together a wide range of colleges and apprenticeship providers, offering students and families the chance to explore the opportunities ahead. Our Progress and Attainment Leader, Mr. Tite, spoke about the importance of effective revision, and students left not only with a revision toolkit and stationery, but also with a clear ambition to make the most of this crucial year.

In our primary phase, staff have been working closely with the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) programme. This initiative is helping us to improve the quality of playtimes, supporting better learning, encouraging activity and socialisation, and ensuring that every child enjoys their time outside as much as their time in class.

Attendance remains a key focus across the school. While our primary phase is approaching 96% and our secondary phase is nearing 90%, we know that these figures can and should be higher. Every day in school matters, and we are determined to work with families to ensure that all students attend regularly and benefit fully from the education we offer.

Finally, we are very much looking forward to our Open Evening on Tuesday 7th October. This will be another opportunity to celebrate the progress we have made and to showcase what we offer, from the broad range of GCSE subjects, to the unique opportunity for students to study both French and Spanish, and the purposeful, supportive environment in which all of our students learn. I look forward to seeing you here.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. Have a great weekend.

#Believe. Achieve. Succeed. #TeamMayfield



Secondary Open Evening

We look forward to welcoming you to this year's Secondary Open Evening! Meet our students, explore our various facilities and departments, meet our Leadership Team and learn more about the curriculum and learning we provide. This will be taking place Tuesday 7th October from 5 - 7.30PM.



Author, Tom Mitchell, visits Mayfield!

We were delighted to welcome author Tom Mitchell to school on Thursday 2nd October. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 had the fantastic opportunity to meet him and hear all about his journey as an author.

Tom, who has written many popular children's books including *The First Kid in Space*, spoke to the children about his stories and what it's like to be a writer.

The visit ended with pupils having the chance to ask him a variety of questions, purchase a book and even get it personally signed – a wonderful keepsake from an inspiring day!



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An out of school club open during the holidays for ages 4-11 yrs. Run by Amy & Teresa, two qualified primary school teachers with a passion for learning, playing and having fun!

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!

Friends of Mayfield



Friends of Mayfield, Annual General Meeting, held Monday 15th September in Cafe Tranquilo. 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 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 3rd November, 6pm, we will meet at the school reception desk. (If you would like to contact us, please email Friendsofmayfield@salterns.org).

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.



Well done Ivy and Poppy!

Our young stars took part in the Portsmouth Hockey Tournament, showing fantastic skill, determination, and brilliant teamwork against three strong sides from Havant and Petersfield Hockey Clubs.

A special shoutout to Ivy, who was named Player of the Tournament!

If your child would like to give hockey a go, Portsmouth Hockey Club is offering a free trial session – the perfect chance to try out this fun and exciting sport: portsmouthhockeyclub@gmail.com.

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!