



Mayfield School News

Autumn 1 2025 Issue



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Message from the Head



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of this first half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an inspiring and purposeful start to the academic year at Mayfield.

Across both our Primary and Secondary phases, students have returned full of ambition, eager to learn and determined to be the very best versions of themselves. The energy and positivity across the school have been uplifting, and it has been wonderful to see our community living out our values of Ambition, Inclusion and Respect in everything we do.

Despite some early IT challenges linked to essential system upgrades, the way staff and students responded — with patience and teamwork— reflected the respect and resilience that define our school.

From our opening assemblies to the many classroom visits and learning walks, it's clear that Mayfield continues to move forward with purpose and confidence, stepping confidently into the next chapter of our improvement journey.

This term, we were delighted to welcome several new colleagues to the Mayfield team. Their expertise, enthusiasm and fresh ideas are already enriching our classrooms and supporting our commitment to inclusion — ensuring that every child feels seen, supported and challenged to succeed.

Their arrival reflects our ambition to continue building a highly skilled, passionate team — one that ensures every child benefits from exceptional teaching and care.

Our recent Open Evening for prospective Year 7 students (2026/27 intake) was a true celebration of what makes Mayfield such a special community.

Visitors described the event as welcoming, engaging and inspiring. Our Student Ambassadors and tour guides shone with confidence and respect, representing our school with pride and professionalism. Their ability to communicate so warmly and knowledgeably with families perfectly embodied the ambition we nurture and the inclusion we champion.

One parent shared:

“If the standard of the two wonderful guides is anything to go by, we will definitely be choosing this school.”

Parents were also impressed by the quality of learning on display, the enthusiasm of staff, and the wide range of interactive activities. The evening showed



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how our ambitious curriculum, combined with our inclusive ethos and respectful relationships, creates a learning environment where every child can thrive.

Across the school, teachers and leaders have been working collaboratively to review results, set new goals, and refine our teaching strategies — all driven by our value of ambition: always striving for the very best for our young people.

In Secondary, staff have been developing the Modes of Learning approach, which helps students become confident communicators and reflective learners. This work ensures inclusion, giving every student the skills and confidence to have their voice heard.

In Primary, the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) programme is very exciting with the aim to transform playtimes into purposeful, imaginative and social experiences. Although in its early stages, this is a wonderful example of how we will demonstrate living our values of inclusion and respect, ensuring every child enjoys positive, active and cooperative play.

It was wonderful to see our students perform at the end-of-half-term Music Showcase. The event featured a fantastic range of performances — from guitarists and drummers to solo vocalists. It was a true celebration of talent, demonstrating both the quality of our performers and the courage of those who stepped outside their comfort zones to share their music with others. The showcase reflected our school values of Ambition, Inclusion, and Respect — encouraging every student to strive for excellence, support one another, and value each individual's contribution.

This half term has also been a time to celebrate and thank members of our school community who embody our values every day.

After 26 years of dedicated service, our Site Manager Mr Ray Old retired earlier this term. Ray's commitment and loyalty have been exceptional, and his work has helped shape the Mayfield we know today. His care for others and his pride in the school are perfect examples of respect in action. We wished him every happiness in his retirement.

We are also pleased to welcome Mr Alex Doolan as our new Site Manager. Mr Doolan has already made an excellent start, showing great ambition and a willingness to learn, as well as the professionalism and kindness that make our school community so special.

This term, our Head Prefects, Mia and Shaye, presented confidently to Governors, representing

the student voice with maturity and clarity. Their leadership and integrity were shining examples of both ambition and respect, and they received well-deserved praise for their contribution.

Finally, we will be saying farewell to Mrs John, our Student and Family Support Worker, who retires at the end of this half term after many years of dedicated service to Mayfield families. Her compassion and commitment have been central to our culture of inclusion. We are delighted that Mrs Burnett will be stepping into this important role after half term, ensuring our families continue to receive the same care and support.

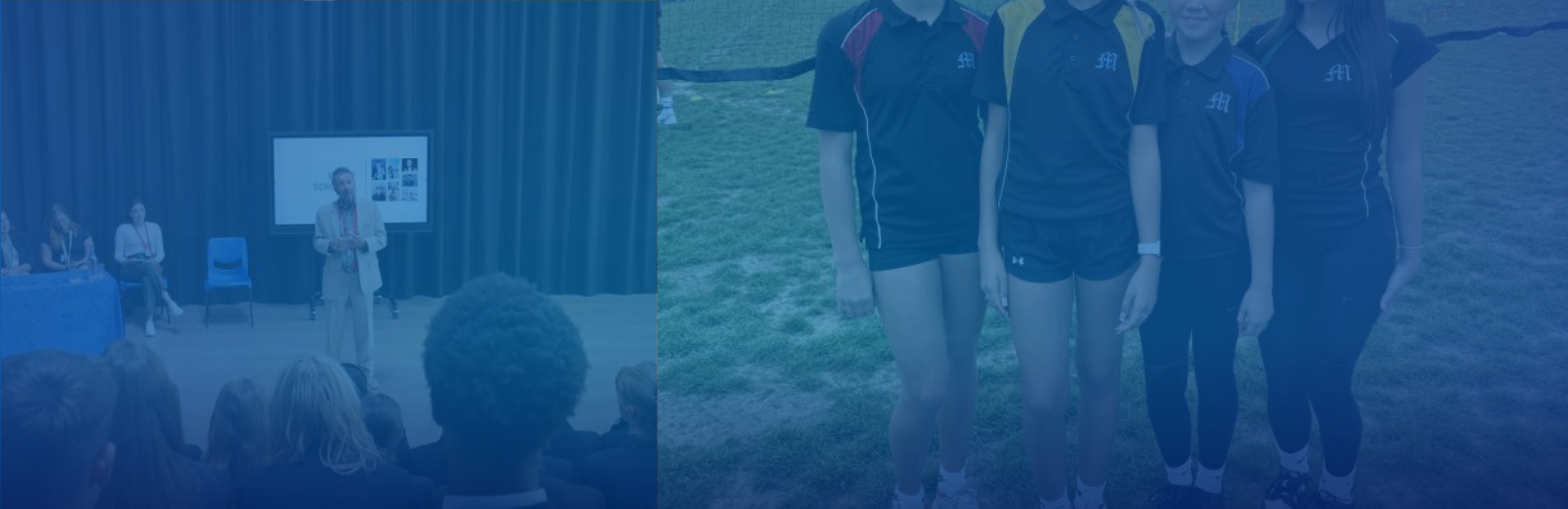
As we look forward to the second half of the autumn term, our focus remains on maintaining high attendance, promoting excellent behaviour, and fostering a love of learning that reflects our shared ambition.

We will continue to build an inclusive environment where every student feels valued and supported, and to uphold the respect that lies at the heart of everything we do.

Thank you for your continued encouragement and partnership. It is through this shared commitment that we continue to grow as a community and achieve great things together.

I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting and successful term ahead.

Mr A Howard
Headteacher



Secondary News

House News

Exciting Start to the Year for Key Stage 3 Students!

The new school year kicked off with energy, enthusiasm, and plenty of muddy trainers as students in Years 7, 8, and 9 took part in the first House Competition of the year during our recent PD Day. The event? A challenging Tough Mudder-style obstacle course designed to test teamwork, determination, and resilience.

All students in these year groups took part, representing their houses with pride and plenty of spirit. Points were awarded for the first finishers in each year group, and competition was fierce throughout the day. The final results will be revealed at the Christmas Presentation Day, so keep your eyes peeled to see which house takes an early lead in the year's competition!

Meanwhile, Year 7 students have had a brilliant start to their secondary school journey. A series of "Meeting the Tutor" parties during tutor time provided a fantastic opportunity for students to get to know their form tutors and settle into school life. These sessions were a remarkable success, helping build strong relationships and a sense of community within the year group.

Additionally, the Year 7 "Meeting the Tutor Evening" was extremely well attended, with the vast majority of students and their parents taking the opportunity to meet with tutors face-to-face. The evening was warmly received by all involved and marked an important milestone in the transition to secondary school.

It's been a busy and exciting start to the year — and with more house competitions and activities on the horizon, we look forward to seeing what our students achieve next!

House Team



Events

Mayfield KS4 Rugby Returns in Style After 10-year Hiatus

Final Score: Mayfield 5 – 10 Oasis Mayfield Southampton

Mayfield School's KS4 rugby team made a triumphant return to competitive rugby this week, taking to the pitch for their first match in over ten years. Despite the narrow 10-5 defeat, it was a performance full of heart, physicality, and skill — laying a strong foundation for the season ahead.

Facing an opposition that had already played a match and boasted several club players, Mayfield rose to the challenge with a gritty and disciplined display. The game was fiercely contested from the outset, with both sides trading big hits and hard yards.

Ollie led the charge with relentless ball-carrying, constantly punching holes in the defensive line and putting Mayfield on the front foot. His power and determination were key in setting the physical tone of the game.

At scrum half, George managed the forwards with composure and intelligence, keeping the tempo high and ensuring structure around the breakdown. His calm leadership helped keep the pack focused in the heat of battle.

Defensively, Georgie and Leyton made their presence felt with a series of thunderous tackles, halting opposition momentum time and time again. Their physical commitment was matched by the elusive running of Mayfield's wingers, who consistently challenged the defence out wide with pace and agility.

Ralphy provided excellent control at full-back, reading the game well and providing a reliable last line of defence. His switch to scrum half later in the match was seamless, highlighting his versatility and game awareness.

The tight five came into their own when the scrums went fully contested, powering through their opposite numbers and giving Mayfield a solid platform. Their effort in the engine room laid the groundwork for the backs to operate. Captain Shaye Morrow led by example from fly-half, orchestrating attacks with smart kicking and sharp distribution. It was his vision and playmaking that created the opening for Mayfield's only try, finished brilliantly by the ever-determined Georgie.

With the scores level late into the second half, the match was ultimately decided by a last-minute try from the opposition — a cruel blow after such an even contest. Nonetheless, the boys left the field with heads held high.

This performance marks an exciting new chapter for Mayfield rugby. The squad showed immense potential, and with the first match under their belts, there's every reason to believe this team will continue to grow in confidence and cohesion.

A strong start to the season — onwards to the next match!





Open Evening 2025

This half term, we were delighted to welcome parents and carers of our potential future Year 7 students to our Open Evening. Visitors had the chance to explore our school and experience a wide range of engaging activities — from our Magical Maths Wizards and awesome Science experiments to an immersive History department and much more along the way. The evening was a great success, with wonderful feedback from those who attended. A huge thank you to everyone who stopped by, and to all the staff and students whose enthusiasm and hard work made the event such a memorable one!

Unlocking Potential with Omar Sharif

Year 11s from across the Trust came together for an unforgettable and inspiring session with motivational speaker Omar Sharif at Admiral Lord Nelson School.

Through his powerful story, Omar challenged students to believe in themselves, aim high, and take ownership of their future. His message resonated deeply, leaving students feeling empowered, motivated, and ready to face the next chapter with confidence and purpose.

A huge thank you to Omar for igniting a spark in our young people — the future is bright!



PD Day #1

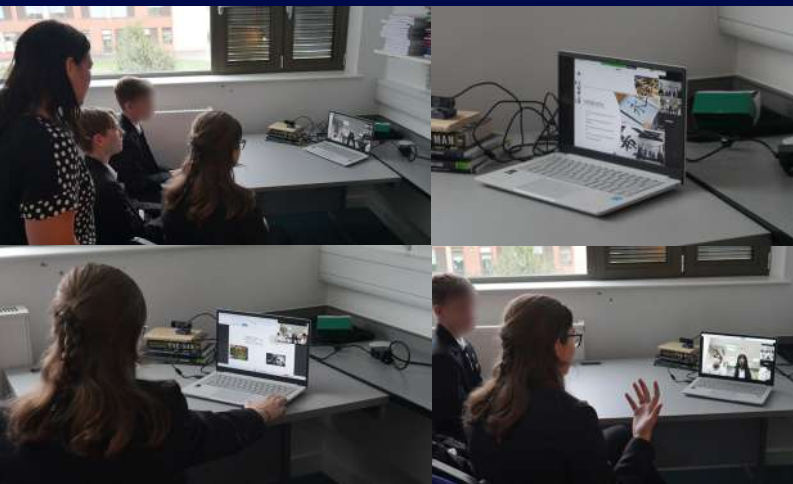
Our recent PD Day focused on the theme of Ambition, inspiring students to think about their goals and future pathways. Year 11s heard from guest speakers, including representatives from City of Portsmouth College, who spoke about post-16 opportunities and future aspirations. Years 7, 8, and 9 took part in an energetic PE session, developing teamwork and resilience. The day encouraged all students to reflect on their ambitions and how to achieve them.



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 students participated in a Zoom call with students from a school in Maizuru, Japan, for a cultural exchange. The students 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.

Helping Year 11s Take the Next Step - A Talk with Mr Brian Wilkie MBE

We welcomed Mr Brian Wilkie, MBE, back to Mayfield for a special assembly to launch this year's Wilkie Scholarship to our Year 11s, along with 5 special guests from Portsmouth Grammar School, including 3 Scholars from his programme that initially attended our school!

Over the last 11 years, Mr Brian Wilkie, MBE, an ex-pupil of Northern Grammar School (now Mayfield), has returned each year to share his success journey and present an exciting opportunity for Year 11 students – the Wilkie Scholarship.



Year 9 Crack the Code with GCHQ!

Ever wondered where languages can take you? This week, our Year 9 students used their Spanish skills to decipher codes in an attempt to stop a cyber attack with the help of GCHQ - the Government Communication Headquarters in a live webinar. We may have some future MI5 language analysts among our students!

Unstoppable Spirit from the Mayfield Girls Team!

The Mayfield School Girls Football team put in an amazing performance in their recent cup fixture against Nelson. From the very first whistle, the girls showed incredible energy, determination, and teamwork, giving their all on the pitch. Despite being unlucky to come away with a narrow defeat, the players demonstrated real heart and passion throughout the game, making everyone at Mayfield proud. Special shoutouts go to Amy, Kiera, Kennedy, and Harmony, who each played brilliantly and showed great skill and commitment in key moments of the match. This result doesn't take away from what was a fantastic display, and the team can hold their heads high after such a strong performance. Attention now turns to the next league fixture, where the girls will no doubt continue to build on this momentum.

Well done, girls—you did Mayfield proud!



Careers Events



Get ready for the future you want.

It has been an exciting and productive half term for Careers Education at Mayfield!

We began by supporting our Year 11 students in exploring their next steps — from promoting local colleges and apprenticeship providers to guiding them through different application routes for September 2025.

A key highlight was our 2025 Careers Fair for Year 11s, where more than ten local providers joined us. Students had the opportunity to speak directly with representatives, ask questions, and gather valuable information about the courses and training options available to them.

So far, we've also held three assemblies focused on the application process — including when and how to apply. Most Year 11s have now had their one-to-one careers appointment with our adviser, who is helping them plan their next move. A reminder to all Year 11 students: start your applications now — don't wait until December!

Our Year 10 students have been equally busy securing their Work Experience placements, which must be confirmed by 19th December. To support this process, we held an online Work Experience parent information evening to explain how the system works and answer any questions from families.

During our recent Personal Development Day, the theme was Ambition. Year 7s reflected on where they see themselves in ten years' time, while Year 11s took part in a session with the University of Portsmouth, focusing on revision techniques and strategies for managing their upcoming GCSE exams.

If you would like to get involved in our Careers Education curriculum, or if you have any questions about colleges, university trips, or outreach programmes, please contact Mrs Munoz in Room 149 at emunoz.mayfield@salterns.org.

Mrs Munoz





Primary News

Message from the Head of Primary



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful half term it has been! I am so proud of all our children for settling so well into their new classes and building such positive relationships with their new teachers.

A big thank you to all our families for attending Parents' Evening. We hope you found it a valuable opportunity to meet and speak with your child's class teacher. As always, our teachers are available at the end of each day for a catch-up where needed once the children have been safely handed over.



We would also like to say a huge thank you for all your contributions this term — from items donated to support our new Outdoor Play And Learning programme, to your generosity during our Harvest Festival, bake sale, and of course, the fun of 'pie-ing' the teachers and our Dance Live! fundraising danceathon! Your support truly makes a difference and helps us provide memorable experiences for our pupils.

We promise to pause on requests for contributions over half term, but we can't thank you enough for everything you've done to help us so far.

Finally, we are delighted to share that all the Harvest donations have now been collected by The North End Pantry, who will distribute them to families in our local community.

We are excited to be launching our OPAL programme after half term which will see the start of 'small loose parts' making their way out onto the playground to give all children a far wider variety of activity at lunchtime. We will always be

out and about at breaktimes and lunchtimes, and we would appreciate your support by providing your child every day with a waterproof coat and wellies so they can comfortably spend their time outside in all weathers! We will be adding an information page to our website in November to share the detail included in my letter to you this week, so please do keep an eye out for frequent updates and photos showcasing the children's enjoyment of the OPAL programme.

Pupils this year are collectively working towards an attendance target of 95% so that they can all participate in an exciting whole primary activity at the end of the year. It's early days and we still have to keep this going for another 2 and a half terms, but I'm really pleased to say that attendance is currently just above target at 95.1%! The school councillors will be working next half term to gather your children's ideas about the reward they would like to be part of in the summer; I look forward to hearing all of their suggestions!

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term break and we look forward to seeing the children back on the 3rd November.

Miss R Osborne
Head of Primary



Events

Building Bonds Through Books

Our Year 7 pupils spent time reading with our Year R children today—a lovely opportunity that brought smiles all around! It was wonderful to see our older students sharing their enthusiasm for reading and our youngest learners listening with such excitement. Both groups thoroughly enjoyed the experience, strengthening our sense of community across the school.



Year 5 Art Showcase

Earlier this week, the Year 5 department proudly hosted an Art Showcase, inviting parents and carers to explore a series of inspiring mini exhibitions. Each display reflected the students' creativity and passion for the natural world, with themes centred around nature, wildlife, and the environment. From vibrant paintings and detailed sketches to imaginative sculptures made from recycled materials, the showcase highlighted both artistic skill and environmental awareness. Families enjoyed walking through the exhibitions, celebrating the students' hard work and thoughtful interpretations of our planet's beauty.



A Sweet Success for the OPAL Project!

This Monday, our school was buzzing with excitement as students and staff came together for our Primary Bake Sale — and what a treat it was! Tables were filled with a mouth-watering selection of cakes, cookies, brownies, and sweet delights, all lovingly baked and beautifully presented by our talented school community.

The highlight? Donating for the chance to throw a pie in a teacher's face — all in good fun and for a great cause! A big thank you to everyone who baked, sold, and donated. Your support made the day a huge success!



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!



Ancient Greece Day

Yesterday, our Year 5 pupils enjoyed a fantastic Ancient Greece Day filled with exciting learning and hands-on activities. Visitors came in to lead a brilliant drama workshop, where the children acted out scenes inspired by Greek myths and legends. They also took part in a range of themed activities that brought ancient history to life. Throughout the day, pupils discovered many fascinating Greek inventions that we still use today – from the Olympic Games to toilets and even ideas about democracy. It was a fun, educational day that truly helped everyone step back in time to experience life in Ancient Greece!

Getting Creative Together!

This week, the Primary Phase enjoyed a wonderful seasonal arts and crafts afternoon, where parents joined their children for a fun-filled session of autumn and Halloween-themed creativity.

Together, families made some orange, red and yellow pumpkin collages, fall decorations, and spooky seasonal artwork, filling classrooms with colour, laughter, and imagination. It was a lovely opportunity for parents and children to get creative side by side and celebrate the season together.

A big thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the afternoon such a success!



Primary News

Year R

A Fantastic Start at Mayfield!

What a wonderful beginning to the children's school journey at Mayfield! We are incredibly proud of how well they have settled in and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know each of them. It has been a pleasure to see their confidence grow as they explore both the indoor and outdoor environments. The mud kitchen, water trays, and role-play area have been especially popular!

This term, our learning has focused on ourselves and our families. The children have loved sharing their own experiences and memories with their friends, helping to build strong relationships and a sense of community in the classroom. We have also been learning about special celebrations, including Diwali and Bonfire Night.

You may have heard your child mention Drawing Club! This is a new and exciting approach to teaching writing that we are using this year, and the children have really embraced it. We have enjoyed exploring a range of engaging stories, including Winnie the Witch, What Happened to You?, What We'll Build, and many more. We look forward to sharing some of the children's fantastic work with you soon.

Thank you for your continued support at home with phonics. The children are making excellent progress, and it is wonderful to see their enthusiasm, perseverance, and growing confidence as readers.

We are very much looking forward to the next half term and all the new learning adventures it will bring.

Wishing you all a lovely and restful break!

The Year R Team



Year 1

What an amazing start to Year 1!

We are so proud of all the children and how brilliantly they have settled into their new routines. The move from Year R to Year 1 is a big step, but the children have taken it in their stride!

In Maths, we've been exploring numbers up to 100. The children have been counting in different ways and using a range of practical resources to support them. They have practised comparing numbers, partitioning into tens and ones, and using this knowledge to identify numbers on a number line.

In Reading, we've enjoyed reading a variety of books and have begun developing our predicting and inferring skills. Our new Drawing Club sessions have been a huge hit! The children love using their imaginations to invent their own settings, characters, and adventures. They draw their ideas and then write sentences about them, remembering to use capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops.

Phonics has been another area of fantastic progress this half-term. The children have revised everything they learned in Year R and have begun exploring new alternative sounds. Next half-term, we'll continue to expand this knowledge and start 'growing the code' and learning even more alternative sounds. We have sent home flashcards of tricky words to focus on over half term so please practice and quiz your children to help support their learning of these!

A big well done to everyone reading five times a week—your effort is really paying off! You've earned lots of stars, and we can't wait to see those bookmarks filled and prizes claimed!

Science has been full of discovery and excitement. We've been learning about seasonal changes and how each season brings

different weather, signs, and clothing choices. We've also been studying trees—learning to identify whether they are evergreen or deciduous, naming their different parts, and even going on a tree hunt around the school grounds to spot these features in real life!

In our wider curriculum, we've been finding out more about the country we live in. The children can now name the four countries that make up the UK, their capital cities, and have learned about the continents and oceans of the world. You might have heard the continents song being sung at home—it's definitely a class favourite!

In Art, we've been exploring how different lines and shapes can be used creatively. Inspired by music, we created expressive lines on paper and collaborated to produce a fantastic group artwork.

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Our seasonal arts and crafts session was a lovely afternoon and such a wonderful way to celebrate all our learning about the seasons! The children had a brilliant time getting creative. It was lovely to see so many adults joining us to share in the fun, and we want to say a big thank you to everyone who came along and got stuck in with painting, wand-making, and creating alongside the children. Your enthusiasm and support helped make the afternoon truly special!

We are incredibly proud of how well the children have embraced Year 1. Thank you for your ongoing support – it makes such a difference. We can't wait for another fun-filled and exciting term ahead!

The Year 1 Team



Primary News

Year 2

What a wonderful and exciting first half term we have had in Year 2! The children have settled beautifully into their new routines and have shown great enthusiasm and curiosity in their learning.

We have been exploring the story *The Lion Inside*. The children have impressed us with their fantastic writing skills as they created detailed character descriptions of the little mouse. We were so proud of the imaginative vocabulary and thoughtful sentences they used to bring the character to life!

In Maths, we have been working hard on adding three addends and using our number bonds to add and subtract through 10. The children have been developing their problem-solving skills and showing great perseverance when tackling new challenges.

Our topic work has been full of excitement! We took part in a brilliant workshop where we discovered what life was like in London in 1666. The children had lots of fun dressing up as King Charles and even tried to put out the fire themselves! This hands-on experience really helped bring our history learning to life.

In DT, we have been learning all about healthy eating and where our fruit and vegetables come from. To finish off our topic, the children designed and made their very own fruit smoothies. They had a fantastic time chopping, blending, and of course—tasting!

In Music, we have been learning about the call and response method, focusing on animals you might see on a safari. The children worked incredibly hard to keep the rhythm and respond in time. We loved using the instruments and hearing the children's creative ideas—our classroom sounded like a real safari!

We are so proud of all the hard work, enthusiasm, and creativity the children have shown this half term. They truly deserve a well-earned rest over the holidays.

Have a lovely half term break, and we look forward to another exciting term ahead!

Warm Wishes,

The Year 2 Team



What an amazing start to Year 3 we have had in Amazon and Nile Class! The children have settled beautifully into their new routines and have shown real enthusiasm for learning. It has been wonderful to see how quickly they have adapted to life in Year 3—showing independence, curiosity and a fantastic attitude towards doing their very best.

This half term, our topic has taken us back in time as we explored life in the Stone Age. A definite highlight was our incredible trip to Butser Ancient Farm. The children loved stepping into the past—touring the roundhouses, learning about how our ancestors lived, carving chalk, making Stone Age bracelets, and even becoming archaeologists as they dug for ancient artefacts. It was a truly memorable day that brought our history learning to life!

In Art, we have continued our Stone Age theme by experimenting with natural materials to create beautiful pieces inspired by cave paintings. The children have enjoyed finding and using earthy tones and textures to produce some stunning artwork.

Our Science lessons have transformed us into budding geologists. We have been observing, testing and investigating different types of rocks and now understand how igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks are formed. In English, we have been using this knowledge to write our very own non-chronological reports all about rock formation. You might like to ask your child about their favourite rock or what happens when a volcano erupts—after reading our class book, “Pebble in My Pocket,” they truly are the experts! Next time you find a pebble on the beach, see if they can tell you about its long and fascinating journey through time.

In PE, we have been developing our skills in hockey, and the children have shown great

teamwork and perseverance. We are looking forward to welcoming Portsmouth Hockey Club for a workshop next half term.

It has been a wonderful start to the year, full of energy, enthusiasm, and great learning. We are so proud of all the children and can't wait for more adventures next half term.

Have a fantastic break and a fun-filled Halloween!

The Year 3 Team



What a busy and exciting half term it has been in Year 4! The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm and curiosity in everything they've done.

In Maths, we've been working hard on rounding and exploring 4-digit numbers. The class has also been developing efficient strategies for solving problems, including using the column method and bar models — it's been great to see their confidence grow!

In English, the children have produced some brilliant writing pieces. They created an informative online safety leaflet to help children stay safe on the internet, and also wrote a wonderful diary entry from the perspective of an Anglo-Saxon child — full of imagination and historical detail!

During our Reading lessons, we've enjoyed diving into *The Queen's Nose* and *The Land of Roar*, discussing characters, themes, and key events while practising our comprehension skills.

Our Science topic has been all about animals — we've learned to classify vertebrates and invertebrates, discovering the fascinating features that make each group unique.

In Design and Technology, the children have shown their creativity and teamwork by completing market research, designing, and making their very own biscuits for a target audience — the classroom smelled amazing during baking day!

In Music, we've been exploring rhythm and sound to represent the rainforest. The children used body percussion and glockenspiels to create layers of sound that captured the mood and atmosphere of the rainforest — a wonderfully creative and expressive experience!

In PE, we've been developing skills in basketball and gymnastics, focusing on teamwork, coordination, and control.

Finally, in History, we've travelled back in time to the Anglo-Saxon period, exploring why they came

to Britain, what life was like, and how historians uncover these stories through artefacts and evidence.

It's been a fantastic half term filled with learning, laughter, and creativity. We're so proud of how hard the children have worked and can't wait to see what next half term brings!

The Year 4 team



Primary News

Year 5

A Fantastic First Half Term!

What an incredible start to the year it's been for Year 5! The children have worked so hard and shown great enthusiasm across all areas of learning this half term.

Our history topic on the Ancient Greeks has truly come to life. The children enjoyed an amazing Ancient Greek workshop, where they explored artefacts, tried out traditional games, and even experienced what life might have been like in Athens and Sparta. Inspired by our learning, we also delved into Greek myths, using the story of Theseus and the Minotaur as a model to plan and write our own exciting mythological adventures — full of heroes, beasts, and brilliant imagination!

In English, we have been gripped by Shackleton's Journey. The children wrote persuasive letters applying to join Ernest Shackleton's brave expedition to Antarctica, using powerful vocabulary and formal language to convince him they were the perfect explorers for the job. Their writing has been truly impressive!

In maths, we have been developing our understanding of decimals and money, learning how to convert between pounds and pence and solve real-life problems with confidence.

A real highlight of the half term was our 3D Art Showcase, where the children displayed their incredible creativity. The gallery was filled with colourful, detailed pieces that wowed everyone who came to see them.

We've also been proud to see some of our Year 5 pupils representing the school in football tournaments, showing excellent teamwork and determination.

It's been a busy and brilliant half term, and we couldn't be prouder of everything the children have achieved. We hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved rest over the break — we can't wait to see what the next half term brings!

The Year 5 Team



Year 6

Although we are already half a term into the school year, hard to believe, welcome to Year 6! The time has just flown by, and we have had an incredibly busy and successful start to the new school year. Our Year 6 children are taking their learning seriously, applying themselves and demonstrating our school values of Ambition, Inclusion and Respect in everything that they do.

In reading this half-term, we have been reading the book 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell, following on from our reading of Katherine Rundell's 'Explorers' in Year 5. Rooftoppers follows the young life of Sophie, believed to be orphaned as a baby when the ship that she was travelling on between France and England sank. Rescued by Charles, she is unconventionally raised and, in her teens, sets off with Charles to France, to escape being placed in an orphanage, and to find her mother, who she believes is still alive. Along the way, she meets Matteo and the theme of friendship blossoms. We have followed many key themes throughout the story including, determination, family, growing up and ingenuity.

In writing, we have covered two units so far. We have studied autobiographies and then written them about our lives to date, using features such as, first person pronouns, chronology, conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions, facts, opinions, relative clauses, and simple past and present progressive tenses.

For our second unit, we studied formal speeches and then wrote a formal speech about our new OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) initiative, applying the following skills, formal tone and register, modal verbs, formal tone, passive voice and viewpoints represented using conjunctions.

In maths, we have been learning about place value and reading and writing numbers up to and beyond a million. We have worked with various structures and representations to learn about patterns with numbers and expressions, including using adjusting, helping us to develop our mental calculation strategies and more efficient methods with addition and subtraction.

In Science, we have been learning about electrical circuits and power. We have been learning about power sources, making circuits, using switches, and how to make lights brighter and dimmer with scientific enquiry. We have been learning about voltage and current and where electricity comes from and what it is used to power.

In History, we have really enjoyed learning about World War II, including the impact it had on our country, local area and on our lives today. We have been leaning about enemies and allies during the war, as well as those in power for major countries involved and their roles. To support and enhance

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Primary News

this learning, we visited the D-Day Museum in Southsea and got to see many World War II artefacts to deepen our knowledge. Our Music this half term has been linked to World War II, focussing on music from throughout the war, and how it brought people together and motivated and comforted the nation. We focussed on the singer Vera Lynn and performed her iconic song 'We'll Meet Again'.

In PSHE, we have been learning all about our brains and about how different parts of our brains work in different situations. This helps us to understand why we behave and react to given situations and how we can develop strategies to help us and support our own mental health and well-being. We have also been learning about ourselves and how we form part of a team, working collaboratively together to problem solve and succeed. In French, we have been really fortunate to continue to receive specialist teaching from Madame Humphreys, learning about European countries.

Each Year 6 class also had the opportunity to care for our school chickens for a week, something that the children really enjoyed taking responsibility for. This is merely a snippet of what we have been up to in Year 6 but, as you can see, we have been busy. As always, thank you for your continued support, have a lovely half term break, and we look forward to the next half term and the run-up to Christmas.

Best wishes,

The Year 6 Team



Notices

Mayfield School Community Dance Showcase

**THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2025
MAYFIELD SCHOOL
6:30-9PM**



All funds raised will go towards
future Performing Arts events at
Mayfield school.

Adults £5
Concessions £3

Featuring performances from...



Unloc



WHO INSPIRES YOU?

- Are you aged 11-18?
- Do you live in Portsmouth?
- Are you interested in books or illustration?



An opportunity for 10 young people from Portsmouth to collaborate on writing and illustrating a book about an inspirational person from the city!

This will take place across 8 Wednesday evenings (4:30-6:30pm) starting in November, at Portsmouth Guildhall, Portsmouth, PO1 2AB.

Spaces will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so apply now to avoid disappointment!

For more information or any questions email: Kellie@unloc.org.uk



POST-16 OPEN TRAINING SESSION



Chelsea FC Post-16 College Programme will be running an open training session at Sparsholt College in October this year. This will be open to all prospective female players to attend for the 2026/27 year.

The day will include an Introduction and overview of our Post-16 Programme and include a training session focusing on the technical and tactical aspects of the game. To confirm attendance please book online by using the QR code or the below website and course code provided.

Course Code	Venue	Date
PO16-SPA-H-6	Sparsholt College SO21 2NF	Wednesday 29th October
Timings	Age	Pitch Surface
09.00-12.00pm	School Year 11-12	Grass

chelseasoccerschools.co.uk



POST-16 OPEN TRAINING SESSION



Chelsea FC Post-16 College Programme will be running an open training session at Sparsholt College in October this year. This will be open to all prospective male players to attend for the 2026/27 year.

The day will include an Introduction and overview of our Post-16 Programme and include a training session focusing on the technical and tactical aspects of the game. To confirm attendance please book online by using the QR code or the below website and course code provided.

Course Code	Venue	Date
PO16-SPA-H-5	Sparsholt College SO21 2NF	Wednesday 29th October
Timings	Age	Pitch Surface
09.00-12.00pm	School Year 11-12	Grass

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*contact us to book:
getsetplay1@gmail.com*

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!

Lost Property

We have a number of lost property items in Student Services especially blazers and coats. Please could you remind your child/ren if they have lost a piece of clothing, to check our 'Lost Property' situated in Student Services.

Please name all items of clothing, so we can determine the owner more easily. If these items of clothing are not returned to their rightful owner by the end of each half-term, they will be given to charity or the Pre-Loved Uniform Shop.

NHS Flu Vaccination Reminder

If you haven't yet completed the online consent form, please do so as soon as possible to confirm whether you would like your child to receive the flu vaccination in school. For any Primary children who didn't receive their flu vaccination on the 8th October, they can be booked in with the Secondary students on 25th November.

Please complete the form by 23rd November 2025.

School Code: CW150362

Online Form: <https://www.hiowhealthcareimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

For more information or assistance, please contact the School Aged Immunisation Team:

0300 123 5074

IOW.SAI@solent.nhs.uk



Well done Sophie!

Sophie from Year 6 proudly represented our school at the Great Junior Run last Saturday. She completed the 2.5 km course with an impressive time of 15 minutes and 4 seconds. This is a fantastic achievement that reflects Sophie's dedication, perseverance, and love for running, really demonstrating our school value of Ambition. Well done, Sophie! We are incredibly proud of her achievement and look forward to seeing her continue to excel in future sporting events.

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/Newsletter. Please send these to general.mayfield@salterns.org

We look forward to seeing you all again in November. Have a lovely Half-term!

School Calendar

First day back after October Half-Term: Monday 3rd November

Christmas Holidays: Monday 22nd December - Monday 5th January 2026

First day back after Christmas Holidays: Tuesday 6th January 2026

NOVEMBER

6th November	Community Dance Showcase
10th November	Year 11 Mock Exams begin
10th November	New to Year R School Starters - Session 1
11th November	Remembrance Day - Assemblies
20th November	New to Year R School Starters - Session 2
21st November	Children In Need
25th November	Secondary Flu Vaccinations
28th November	INSET Day

DECEMBER

3rd December	New to Year R School Starters - Session 3
3rd December	Wizard of Oz School Performance 1
4th December	Wizard of Oz School Performance 2
5th December	Wizard of Oz School Performance 3
9th December	New to Year R School Starters - Session 4
11th December	Year R Nativity to Parents
11th December	Year 11 Parents Evening
15th December	Carols Around the Tree Event
16th December	KS2 Christmas Show
17th December	KS1 Christmas Show
19th December	Celebration Assemblies across the school



Mayfield School



mayfieldschool



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For more updates and information,
follow us on our Social Media pages
and visit our website at;

mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk