



Weekly News



Mayfield Primary School, Lytham St Annes

Headteacher: Mr G T Denton Date: 19/03/21 Issue: 25

'Valuing Every Achievement'

MAYFIELD TV SHORT FILMS

'Preparing for a recovery learning journey at Mayfield'

MAYFIELD TV YOUTUBE CHANNEL

PART 3 - FINAL EPISODE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY 19TH MARCH.

SCHOOL WILL CLOSE FOR EASTER AT THE USUAL TIMES NOT 1.30PM AS PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED IN SEPTEMBER. WE DON'T FEEL IT APPROPRIATE TO END EARLY ON THIS DAY, AFTER SO MUCH LOST TIME IN SCHOOL, SO IT WILL BE A NORMAL FINISH TIME AND ROUTINE ON FRIDAY 26TH MARCH.

NEW TIMES— EXCITING NEW CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENTS

After launching our new themes a year ago, we have spent the last few weeks and months preparing for stage two of the new curriculum. This is a really exciting stage as we move from the initial themes set last year and merge them with our newly refreshed approach to teaching and learning in the classroom. There is a crucial emphasis upon creating an 'active purpose' in our curriculum, whereby our children are immersed in projects that set for them at special **Stunning Start** events at the outset. These are usually a special drama, speaking and listening based event that set a 'make believe' context which makes the children the 'experts' in finding the solutions across the term.

These events interspersed with carefully planned curriculum **Theme Days** which spotlight a whole days project on one subject - usually from our 'creator' or 'investigator' areas: **art; music; design & technology; science**. In addition each year group has designed brand new **Fieldtrips** and, if Covid-19 conditions allow, we intend to start as many as possible this coming term. These trips make extensive use of our unique locality to support, colour and develop the children's current 'active purpose'.

Finally, the children will bring all of their learning and work together for families in a specially planned **Parent Celebration**. In perfect conditions, this will mean families coming into school to share in the children's work and outcomes - usually in the theatre - through either a **Curriculum Show**, a **Market Square** or a **Gallery**. If this is not possible in person before July 16th - we will be filming these for families to see via Purple Mash.

Essentially stage two of our new curriculum is very focused on the children being really active, enthused owners of their wider curriculum studies. Not simply a series of lessons with the same old outcomes in books that neither interest nor appeal to our children, but instead work that means something. Work that really allows for progress by doing less but having more time to make more attempts and learn from errors and mistakes rather than a simple 'attainment treadmill' of who can fill which book first regardless of the quality and the improvements from starting point.

Our new natural open-plan horseshoe classrooms have been designed to facilitate this. Our staff training has been geared to develop the teaching skills to facilitate this. Our curriculum planning has been refined to facilitate this.

We think the children will really enjoy studying this way. We think they will enjoy having more time to refine and improve their work. We feel they will enjoy being more hands on and having a real purpose. We feel they will benefit from the vital importance of speaking, listening and vocabulary development have in this second stage. We think they will love the thematic, drama days that bring those all important smiles and eagerness. We think they will really enjoy spending more time on the full curriculum rather than a narrow 'test driven' curriculum that often occurs in primary schools.

We are all excited by this second stage and that is the key.

I am going to say more in our forthcoming **'When I Grow Up...New Times...New Curriculum'** films on **Mayfield TV YouTube** starting next week, when we will be interviewing your child's teachers on their stunning start work with the children.

For the Summer Term, year 3/4/5/6 will be developing larger events in the theatre and classroom, whilst years 1&2 will be basing their stunning starts and theme events on a smaller scale - as we attempt to find the right blend for the right year groups. Early Years will clearly follow their own thematic events in line with the needs of our young learners.

On Monday, you will all receive a copy of the Summer Curriculum Flyer (KS2 version shown here), whilst your children will bring home their **Curriculum Information Mats and Posters** on their stunning start days next week in Key Stage 2 or on Monday 12th April in Key Stage 1 and Early Years.

WATCH OUR FOR NEWS ON A LIVE CURRICULUM PARENT FORUM ZOOM Q&A COMING IN APRIL.

KEY FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAR 23	YEAR 6 STUNNING START DAY
MAR 25	YEAR 4 STUNNING START DAY
MAR 25	YEAR 3 STUNNING START DAY
MAR 26	YEAR 5 STUNNING START DAY
MAR 26	ROLL OF HONOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS
MAR 26	SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR EASTER
SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON MONDAY 12TH APRIL	
APR 12	SCHOOL OPENS FOR SUMMER TERM
APR 13	YEAR 4 ADDITIONAL STUNNING START DAY
APR 23	THE MAYFIELD POTTERY THROWDOWN (Y3)
APR 27	PARENT FORUM LIVE ZOOM WITH MR DENTON 'OUR CURRICULUM'
ALL EVENTS ARE CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS.	

