



The **REGISTER**

ISSUE 10 | WINTER 2022

"A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO US ALL, MY DEARS. GOD BLESS US!"



EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Once upon a time, my wife and I were Mayville parents. Our children are now grown-up and living lives that continue to make us proud.

Back in October, as Mayville welcomed parents to come and join us at Portsmouth Guildhall for our annual Prizegiving, I thought back on how I used to feel attending these events, during my tenure as a School parent. (I can't remember exactly but I think we have, by this point, attended somewhere around 17 such Prizegiving Concerts!) In all honesty, there would definitely have been times when I would not have relished the idea of leaving a warm and cosy home at the end of a working day, to sit in the Guildhall. However, I always remember leaving the event with something of a warm, fuzzy feeling, having watched my own children take their places on stage as Mayville pupils, showcasing everything that the School does so well.

Untainted by 17 or so years, or the fact that my own children have long since left Mayville, I, once again, left the Guildhall with that familiar sense of pride. I found it coming home from a very chilly fireworks night. It was there, again, as I watched Senior pupils dressed as elves, entertaining the little ones, whilst they waited to visit Santa in his grotto. I felt it as I chatted to a new Mayville parent who was running a stall at the Christmas Fair. From behind my camera at the Junior productions of *Bah, Humbug!*, I found myself smiling, surrounded by similarly proud parents.

All this time later, I find myself coming home to say the same thing to my wife, "It really is a cracking little school."



Neil Hardcastle
Marketing &
Development Director

If you have a story that you'd like us to feature in The Register or on our social media, please email:

news@mayvillehighschool.net

Parent advocacy remains our greatest strength. Please help to spread the word about Mayville by sharing the content that we feature on our website & social media channels.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Recruitment at Mayville continues to go from strength to strength and we are proud to be bolstered by high pupil numbers, especially during what may have proved a tricky time for the independent sector. We thank you all for continuing to spread the word about the 'Mayville difference'.

Throughout 2022, we have been celebrating our 125th year. Naturally, we have been looking back over our illustrious past, to reflect upon our enduring presence in the heart of the local community. Whilst we remain steadfastly proud of our history and heritage, we have launched a new prospectus, outlining our vision for the values and ethos of a Mayville education in 2022 and into the future.

The Autumn Term hosted two enormously successful PTA events. Our Fireworks display at Cockleshell (pages 12-13) saw a huge turnout braving the cold, whilst our annual Christmas Fair brought pupils, parents and grandparents together in festive cheer (pages 34-35).

Responsible citizenship remains at the heart of character education at Mayville. We continue to bring pupil voice to the Council of Portsmouth Students (CoPS), with Junior delegates now also joining the Primary Council of Portsmouth Students (PCoPS). Kindness Ambassadors and volunteers also oversaw the collecting of donations for the Rotary Shoebox Appeal & Portsmouth Reverse Advent (pages 20-21).

Throughout our timetable, Academic pursuits (pages 22-25), sporting endeavours (pages 28-29) and creative arts activities (pages 26-27) ensure a rich and varied curriculum, catering for all tastes, interests and passions.

2022's GCSE results provided our highest ever recorded value added scores, with 87% of pupils exceeding their potential – gaining, on average, ten higher grades each (measured against expected achievement). This is the story behind the statistics – Mayville pupils rising to the challenge of achieving their own personal best.



A message from
THE HEAD
REBECCA PARKYN

As we draw to a close the first term of this academic year, and with Christmas on everyone's minds, it is a golden opportunity to reflect upon the spirit of generosity which so surrounds us at the moment, and what it means to Mayville at this time and throughout the year.

At this year's Carol Service held at St Simon's, the spirit of 'cheer and goodwill' was simply heart-warming. Our pupils have been busy putting their modern twist on ancient traditions. Our Mayville production of *Bah, Humbug!* was well received and was a shining example of their talent and tenacity and will, I'm sure, remain a happy memory for many of our pupils. Likewise, *Roar*, at Portsmouth Cathedral was a magnificent celebration of traditional and seasonal classical music. Mayville's was the only choir to offer up a charming solo piece, performed by Evelyn.

The Mayville wingspan has spread far and wide this term. Year 3 (U2) explored Stonehenge whilst some of our senior pupils have been doing their Christmas shopping in the markets of Munich! The Geography department took us to Sicily and, as well as this, skiing will be back next year after the pandemic has stopped our skiers in their tracks over the last few years. We will be leading groups into the natural adventure paradise of the French/Italian Alps. Our sports teams have also done extremely well, with Zeb and Finn both competing and claiming three silver medals apiece in the ISA National finals.

Fireworks' Night and the Christmas Fair both saw an incredible turnout of the Mayville family and were a great success, with Mayville's bright lights illuminating the sky over the seafront. The money raised for our PTA is very gratefully received and many thanks to everyone who came out to support us.

Kindness Ambassadors represented the School when they visited the drop-off site for donations to the Portsmouth reverse advent calendar. Juniors have also contributed to the annual Rotary Shoebox Appeal. This aspect of Mayville's curriculum, practising service and social responsibility with actions not only through words, is one I am very proud of and one in which our pupils should take pride themselves, as they demonstrate time and time again how much Mayville has to give.

Mayville has taken part in the Council of Portsmouth Students (CoPS) and Primary Council of Portsmouth Students (PCoPS) which allows pupils in both the Junior and Senior schools a wealth of opportunity to make their voices heard, develop the power of articulation and encouragement to interact with other schools and debate issues they may not have previously thought about. Unloc, the programme partner, is committed to teaching children the skills and confidence to present, engage and lead discussion.

After a considerable number of Junior pupils completed the Summer Reading Challenge, we had a visit from children's author Cressida Cowell and a subsequent 'How to Design a Dragon' competition which produced some wonderful drawings and conversations.

The lying-in-state of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was an event that brought the nation together in mourning, and Mayville was there at its centre. It was without doubt the best example of a living History trip I have seen in my career. It was a display of collective grief unseen in most of our lifetimes and for all those who followed, it became almost a pilgrimage. We have seen and shown our own shining examples of selflessness this term, as much as Mayville promotes the power of individual voice, we recognise the modest appeal of quiet service, reflected and emulated among our staff and pupil body.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Gressida Cowell author visit

TRAINING DRAGONS





In September, we were visited by international best-selling author and former Children's Laureate, Cressida Cowell. She came in to talk to our Junior School pupils about her creative process and took time to answer questions and sign copies of her latest book *Which Way to Anywhere*.

She brought with her a selection of sketchbooks, which beautifully detailed the development of her characters, some of which were twenty or more years in the making!

Pupils were treated to a truly uplifting talk and were then inspired to enter our very own *How to Design a Dragon* competition. Junior pupils were tasked not only to draw their dragon but also to describe their dragon-like features.

1st: Adam (Y5/M3) with pages and pages of vivid description.

2nd: Marnie (Y4/L3) with her family of dragons.

3rd: Teddy (Y4/L3) with her colourful glitter dragon.

All of the winning designs were sent to Cressida!





"I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. The Mayville ethos is one of using your voice and deeds for the service and benefit of others. Queen Elizabeth II devoted her life as an exemplar of such values.

As Headteacher, I wanted to provide our school community with an opportunity to pay their respects to this great monarch."

Mrs Parkyn, 9th September 2022



As a school, we came together for two special assemblies, to pay tribute to the late Queen Elizabeth II. Honouring our longest serving monarch, pupils and staff reflected on an extraordinary life dedicated to service, duty and integrity.

Lying-in-State visit **MAYVILLE** PAYS TRIBUTE

Leaving Portsmouth in the very early hours of the morning, a group of Year 10 & 11 (L5 & U5) pupils set off to pay their tribute to the late Queen at Westminster Hall.

They arrived in London whilst it was still dark and had an hour's walk before they could even join the end of the queue, making their way to Millennium Bridge just as the sun was starting to rise.

After walking and queuing for many hours, they finally made their way past the coffin, to pay their respects. We were able to follow them via the live-stream on the BBC website.



JUNIOR SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING

Before breaking for the half-term holiday, we went to Portsmouth Guildhall for our annual Prizegiving celebration. Separated into two performances, Nursery, Pre-Prep & Juniors had their concert in the morning, with Seniors taking to the stage later in the afternoon.

Prizegiving is an opportunity for us to gather as a community and celebrate pupils' individual successes throughout the year, with awards given for academic achievement, progress and attitude towards studies. Pupils are also awarded in respect of excellence in the arts and sporting endeavours. In addition to individual successes, collective pursuits throughout the year towards the inter-house competitions are also honoured.





SENIOR SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING

Alongside the presentation of form and special prizes, Prizegiving also provides an opportunity to showcase Mayville's enormous range of creative talents in drama, speech, dance, music and signing.

All of the hard work that pupils put into extra-curricular clubs, such as Dance Enrichment, Music Ensemble and Rock Band, is brought to life on stage. The event also allows parents a chance to see performances of our pupils' ISA Competition entries, GCSE Drama coursework and LAMDA Verse & Prose pieces.

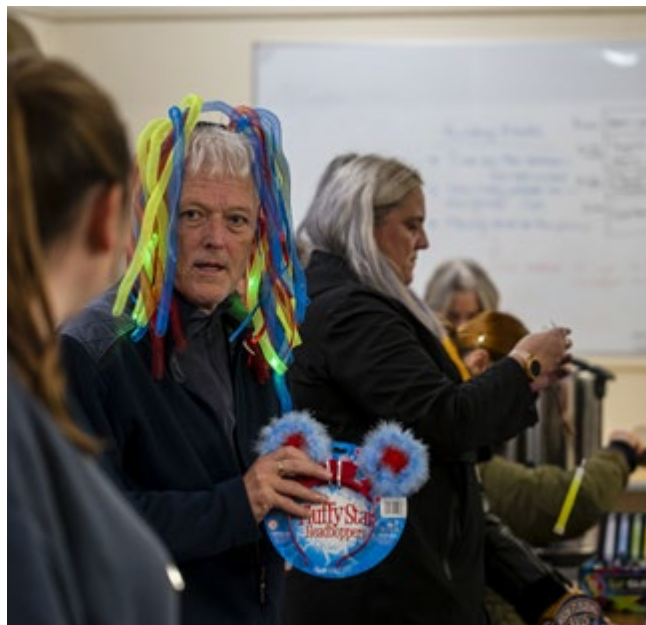
Our Senior pupils took to the stage in the afternoon, to entertain the crowd of fellow pupils, parents and friends of Mayville.







FIREWORKS DISPLAY



After not being able to stage our annual PTA Fireworks Night since before the Coronavirus, we were blessed with a clear, if not somewhat chilly, evening at Cockleshell.

Pupils and parents came out in huge numbers to enjoy the food and drink, entertainment and spectacular display.



Mayville at **THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY**

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our annual Harvest Festival gave thanks and collected donations in aid of St Simon's Church and the excellent work they do, providing hot meals to the homeless, vulnerable and lonely in our community.



RARING TO ROW

Mayville parent, Mr Watkins (father of Max in Year 4 / U3), is part of a small team who are preparing to row 3000 miles, unassisted, across the Atlantic Ocean with 'Raring to Row'.

This incredible challenge is raising funds for children with rare diseases, through the charity Action Medical Research. He came in to school to talk to Junior pupils about the Atlantic Challenge and brought the boat with him! What an inspirational visit.

To find out more about their epic journey and make a donation, please visit www.raringtorow.com



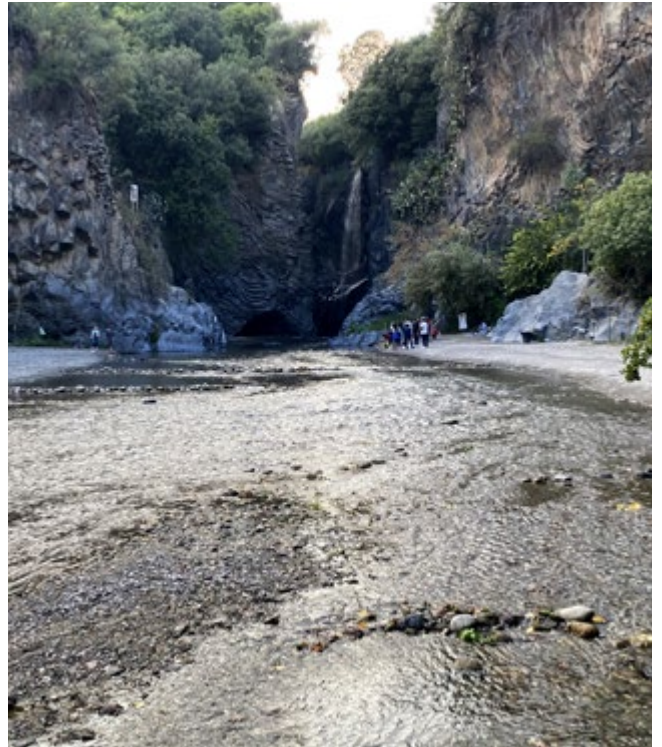
Out and about...

AUTUMN RESIDENTIALS



SICILY

In October, over 40 pupils from Years 9-11 took a trip to Sicily, as part of their Geography studies. They explored the active volcanic landscape of Mount Etna and took in the outstanding natural beauty of the surrounding area.





MUNICH

In the last week of term, a group of Senior pupils enjoyed a very chilly few days exploring Munich, as part of their Modern Foreign Languages studies.

Wrapped up warm, they explored the local sights, tried ice skating and took in a little Christmas shopping in the traditional festive markets.



Out and about...

DAY TRIPPING

STONEHENGE

In early October, Year 3 (U2) braved a blustery day in Wiltshire, to visit Stonehenge, as part of their History studies

We were complimented by many members of the public on our pupils' manners, which is always so lovely to hear when out and about.



THE LIVING RAINFOREST

Year 8 (L4) are looking at 'The Living World' in Geography. As part of their studies of different ecosystems around the world, they took a trip to 'The Living Rainforest' in Berkshire, to explore how different plants and animals in the rainforest have adapted.



AN INSPECTOR CALLS

In November, 38 pupils from Years 10 & 11 (L5 & U5) went to Theatre Royal Brighton to watch *An Inspector Calls*. We study this text as part of our GCSE English Literature curriculum. Seeing it performed on stage helps bring the characters to life, enhancing pupils' understanding of the play's central themes.



TUDOR HOUSE

Year 2 (L2) visited The Tudor House Museum, to consolidate their learning on The Great Fire of London. They had great fun looking at all the old artefacts and dressing-up as characters from the story. They enjoyed exploring the house and learning about how life was different in the past.



PORTCHESTER CASTLE

As part of their History topic of 'Kings & Queens', Year 1 (U1) visited Portchester Castle.



RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP



PRIMARY COUNCIL OF PORTSMOUTH STUDENTS (PCoPS)

Our Junior School Councillors are also delegates of the Primary Council of Portsmouth Students (PCoPS). They recently attended an event at Portsmouth Guildhall, hosted by Unloc, which focused on the importance of pupil voice and representation, both within our school and across the city.

COUNCIL OF PORTSMOUTH STUDENTS (CoPS)

Year 9 (U4) pupils – Evelyn, Savannah, Isaac, Oscar and Josh – joined around 50 students from around the city, as delegates of this year's first Council of Portsmouth Students (CoPS) summit. The focus was on the areas that they would like to improve in their school, community and city. Each group had input on leadership and presentation skills and then shared their ideas back to pupils and staff.



ASPIRING LEADERS

A group of Year 8 (L4) pupils attended Unloc's 'Aspiring Leaders' event at Changemaker Studios, Portsmouth Guildhall. They took part in a series of workshops with guest speakers, who shared their varied career and employment journeys. Activities centred on confidence, team-building and thinking outside the box.



ODD SOCKS

In November, we hosted our #OddSocksDay at Mayville, as part of #AntiBullyingWeek

All pupils were encouraged to express themselves and show their individuality by wearing odd socks to school, to help raise awareness of bullying.



ROTARY CLUB SHOEBOX APPEAL

Junior School pupils supported the Rotary Club Shoebox Appeal. 37 boxes of gifts were collected by our Kindness Ambassadors. These will be sent on to less fortunate children, to help spread a little joy over the festive season.



PORTSMOUTH REVERSE ADVENT

Our pupils learn to appreciate the advantages they have and are encouraged to contribute to the wider community. Last year, our Seniors collected a truly humbling amount of donations for Portsmouth Reverse Advent Calendar. This year, our Junior School were also involved, to help support Pompey in the Community and The Trussell Trust Food Bank.



A love of **ENGLISH** LANGUAGE



BOOK BUZZ SCHOOLS READING PROGRAMME

Once again, this year's new Year 7 (Remove) pupils have taken part in the *Book Buzz* schools reading programme.

Each was able to choose a new book to take home from 17 different titles available. The books are selected by a panel of experts for their sustainability and reading for pleasure qualities.

Our pupils were thrilled with their choices and have the opportunity to read the other 16, as there are copies in the senior library to borrow.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

In early October, we hosted a winners' party for the pupils who achieved gold in our Summer Reading Challenge. Junior pupils were tasked with reading every day over the summer and completing the 'challenge around the world' sheet.

Well done to all of our winners – we are thrilled to see so many of you developing a love of reading for pleasure!

Another reading challenge is planned for during the Christmas holidays.





GOLD READING AWARD

Congratulations to our Gold Reading Award winners, who each read 16 books from the 'book bingo' chart, across a range of different topics, genres and authors!

In November, they were rewarded with a trip to Waterstones in Portsmouth, to choose their own book prize. Before leaving, they had a drink in the cafe, shared their selections and chatted about their favourite reads.



BOOK FAIR

Pre-Prep & Junior pupils attended our visiting Book Fair in November. They came in a year group at a time to purchase books, bags and book marks.

They thoroughly enjoyed choosing from a wide range of fiction and non fiction from the cabinets.

A huge 40% of the money raised from the book sale comes back to Mayville in new books for our School libraries.





THE SCIENCE OF EXPLORATION



HAIR-RAISING SCIENCE!

Year 7 (Remove) pupils had a lot of fun learning about static electricity with the amazing Van De Graaff generator.



THE SCIENCE OF CRIME

Year 7 (Remove) pupils also took on the role of criminal investigators in their science lessons.

They employed forensic investigation techniques, such as chromatography, to reveal the clues and solve the crime!



CREATIVE ARTS

ISA DANCE COMPETITION

In early November, we took pupils to compete in six categories at the ISA National Dance Competition in Wokingham. We entered a solo and group in the Junior KS2 section, two groups in the Senior KS2 section and two in the KS3 section.

It was an incredibly competitive field and everyone worked together, throughout a long day, to put in six outstanding performances. Our Junior (KS2) team placed second overall, with their Harry Potter inspired 'Gryffindance'.

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part and thank you for representing the School with such talent and dedication.



ROAR CHORAL CONCERT

Singers from Mayville joined dozens of other youth choirs, performing as part of *Gabrieli Consort & Players* ROAR project, *In Dulci Jubilo*. This festive treat was performed at Portsmouth Cathedral.

Our choir was the only one to feature a solo, which Evelyn (Y9/U4) sang beautifully.





MAYVILLE PUPIL REPRESENTATION

A number of Mayville pupils, along with our very own Mr McCrohan, performed *Nativity!* at the Kings Theatre in November with CCADS Theatre.

Also appearing at the Kings Theatre, in this year's pantomime production, *Cinderella*, are Jaidan (Y3/U2) and Millie (Y6/U3). You can catch them on stage until 31st December.

Maddy had her West End debut in September, starring as 'Young Anna' in Disney's *Frozen*. She is now about half-way through a six month run of this huge production.



MUSIC SUCCESSES



LONDON YOUNG MUSICIAN

Young drummer, Mia (Y4/L3), won gold in the London Young Musician Summer Competition (aged 8 & under) and has been invited to take part in Musician of the Year next spring.



ABRSM EXAM RESULTS

Emily Pritchard	Grade 1 Singing	Pass
Iris Stacey Ross	Grade 1 Singing	Pass
Poppy Bellis	Grade 1 Piano	Pass
George Palmer	Grade 2 Violin	Merit
Eve Storey	Grade 3 Trumpet	Pass
Millie Byrne	Grade 3 Singing	Pass
Tom Hookway	Grade 3 Piano	Pass
Eden Graham	Grade 3 Singing	Merit
Tabitha Greenhowe	Grade 4 Piano	Pass
Max Ivemey	Grade 4 Singing	Merit

SPORTING SUCCESS



GYMNASTICS

Bertie in Year 8 (L4) continues to go from strength to strength in gymnastics. Competing in the Level 4, South Region Elite Grades, Mens Artistic Gymnastic Championships, he achieved silver overall, with first places for his vault and floor routines.



KARATE

Thomas in Year 7 (Remove) competed in the Commonwealth Karate Club Championships in Birmingham, claiming the silver medal in Kumite (sparring). Following this success, he attended the Manchester Youth Open Karate Championships, winning a gold medal in Kumite (sparring) and a bronze in Kata (form). Well done, Thomas!





SWIMMING

Huge congratulations to our swim team. Competing in the ISA London West Gala, they claimed no less than six medals. Eva, with bronze in the 200m Individual Medley; Naomi, with silver in the 200m Individual Medley and bronze in the 100m Breaststroke; Zeb, with gold in the 50m Backstroke; Finn, with gold in the 50m Butterfly and silver in the 50m Freestyle.



Zeb & Finn then travelled to the London Aquatics Centre, to represent Mayville & London West at the ISA National Swimming Finals. They each claimed three silver medals, with individual successes in the 50m Backstroke for Zeb and 50m Butterfly for Finn, alongside 200m Medley & Freestyle Relays. Congratulations, boys!



GIRLS RUGBY

Last year, a group of Senior girls asked if we could form a rugby team and begin promoting the idea to other schools, so that competitive matches could be played. These girls are now in Year 8 (L4) and this year, Mrs Miles & Mr Smith have started a lunchtime club at Cockleshell.

It has been an amazing experience and the girls are giving it their all. They work together as a team and are showing real potential. We are really proud of their commitment and enthusiasm and it's empowering for them to participate in a sport that they have such a passion for.



Welcome to **SANTA'S** **GROTTO**



The annual visit of Santa to the Mayville grotto is a firm festive favourite with our youngest pupils. It is always such a magical experience, seeing their excited faces, as they wait to meet the big man!

He was aided, once again, by a special selection of jolly helpers from the Senior School.





MAYVILLE CHRISTMAS FAIR

FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

LINDA OWENS HALL, MAYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

RAISING MONEY FOR THE MAYVILLE PTA





In late November, we hosted our annual Christmas Fair in Linda Owens Hall.

It was an absolute pleasure to welcome so many parents, siblings and grandparents along to join us in the festive spirit.

A special thank you goes out to the pupils and parents who volunteered to run stalls and games. We feel an incredible sense of pride in how our school community comes together in support of such events.

The Fair raised over £1300 for the Mayville PTA.

What the Dickens?

BAH, HUMBUG!



During the final week of term, we staged four performances of our annual Christmas production. This year, our Pre-Prep and Junior pupils undertook the not inconsiderable task of adapting Dickens' perennial favourite, *A Christmas Carol*. The play, titled *Bah, Humbug!*, featured some incredibly difficult period language but our pupils rose to the challenge admirably, wowing the packed crowds with their acting, singing and dancing.

Our Nursery children also donned costumes, to appear on stage as the characters of the Nativity, as a newly transformed Scrooge reflected on the story of the very first Christmas.









St Simon's **CAROL** CONCERT



On the penultimate day of term, we performed two Carol Concerts at St Simon's Church. After a few years of remote, filmed events, it was a real pleasure to be able to congregate together and celebrate the season in music and song.

Pupils from Pre-Prep through to Seniors took part, singing a mix of traditional carols and modern Christmas songs. In between the musical performances, pupils read passages from the Bible telling the story of the birth of Jesus, along with festive poems and prayers.

Mayville parent and trustee, The Reverend Canon Dr. Anthony Rustell, delivered the Christmas message, by introducing our pupil volunteers to the gifts of the Magi – gold, frankincense and myrrh.







Merry Christmas
from the Mayville cheeky elf!



@mayvillehighschoolsouthsea



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@MHS_Southsea



Mayville High School

023 9273 4847

enquiries @mayvillehighschool.net
www.mayvillehighschool.com

35-37 St Simon's Rd, Southsea
Hampshire. PO5 2PE