

The

REGISTER

ISSUE 14 | SPRING 2024



PUTTING A LITTLE SPRING IN OUR STEP...



EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Alongside my role at Mayville, I also lecture at University of Portsmouth on the BA Graphic Design Course. I love teaching and being able to share my professional experience with students. More than this, being involved in education provides opportunities for ongoing reflection within my own practice. Education, to my mind, is at its best when it is collaborative, adaptive and not viewed solely as a one-way, one-time transaction.

One of the key challenges we face is establishing an environment in which students feel that it is safe for them to make mistakes. Many, particularly in the post-Covid landscape, are increasingly risk-averse, hesitant, almost as though they are waiting to be shown the 'right' answer. Playful experimentation and the iterative development of ideas is central to how we teach. Beyond the context of an 'arts education', the opportunity to explore new approaches and techniques is essential to instilling both a sense of joy and a creative approach to problem-solving, as part of a life-long love of learning in all young adults. We are, perhaps, yet to fully understand how important this will be to the next generation, with rapid technological advancements and the advent of AI.

Whilst in and around the School this term, I have been privileged to document Mayville pupils having a wealth of opportunities to experiment, explore and think outside of the box. From our co-curricular Shine programme to collaborating with visiting professionals in our masterclass workshops, I hope our pupils appreciate just how fortunate they are!



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

Pupils have enjoyed a number of opportunities for performing in the community this term – competing in **Dance Live!** at the Guildhall (pages 4-5 & 6-7), staging a performance of ***Much Ado About Nothing*** at New Theatre Royal (pages 8-9), taking part in the **Springboard Dance Competition** at HSDC (pages 24-25) or entertaining the elderly residents of a local care home (page 30).

Our annual ski trip took to the slopes in the Italian Alps, providing pupils the opportunity to try a new experience or develop their existing skills (pages 10-13).

We were inspected by CReSTeD in February. Their report finds *'Mayville is a small school with a nurturing environment to enable pupils to progress to their ability. The DLU is in a new building with excellent resources and highly skilled staff. All teachers in the school, due to small class sizes, can adapt teaching to meet the needs of many pupils. This is an exciting time as Wyvern House provides a hub and safe space for pupils that need additional support and is easily accessible.*

The school meets all criteria and is recommended for re-registration without reservation.'

PTA activities this term have raised over £650, which will go towards funding the marquee at this year's Summer Fair. Thank you to those who bought Mother's Day flowers or came to our Quiz Night Social.

Our Creative Arts department have staged a number of workshops with visiting professionals during the Spring Term. Our dancers were joined by Russell Stokes (pages 26-27) and Talia Duff (pages 28-29), whilst our actors bootcamped techniques with Alice from *Coram Shakespeare Schools Foundation*. Next term sees the return of former pupil and professional dancer, Tara Holland, as part of our masterclass programme.

School admissions: September 2024. There are currently places still available for next year. Please help to spread the word about our next Open Morning on Saturday 18th May!



A message from

THE HEAD

REBECCA PARKYN

Having had one of the wettest terms on record we have all had to dig deep but, despite the endless wet days and wet breaks, we have had much to cheer us. Commitment, collaboration and community were very much in evidence at Mayville during this intense, action-packed 12 weeks.

The commitment shown by our pupils to all the extra-curricular activities they undertake alongside their studies has been exceptional. Weeks of rehearsals and practices resulted in superb performances at *Dance Live!* by both our juniors and seniors, the *Shakespeare Schools Festival* and on the sports pitches. Our dance masterclasses this term have proved most enjoyable and instructive and it will be lovely to welcome back a former pupil (now working in the West End) very shortly to give the third masterclass in the series which has been started so well by Talia Duff and Russell Stokes. It's a wonderful example of our community, of both present and former pupils, making a difference to each other's lives.

Collaboration both within school and the wider community was wonderfully demonstrated during Book Week at the various 'lit quizzes' and at CoPS (Council of Portsmouth Students) conferences. This term's event enabled connections to be made and ideas to be shared. Further afield in the Alps our beginner, intermediate and advanced skiers took advantage of abundant snow falls to hone their slalom technique.

We are all fortunate to be part of such an inspirational and engaged school community. This edition of *The Register* is filled with examples of what makes our school so unique. Whether it is in classrooms, in sporting arenas or on the playground, what stands out about the images you see is that the children are happy which is essential for an enriching and memorable learning journey.

Thank you to parents for engaging so kindly in the PTA events, making Easter bonnets and decorating eggs. Such engagement with learning is very much appreciated and nothing could provide a greater demonstration of the importance of community than our Easter services. I am always amazed by the ingenuity shown by parents in making the most wonderful bonnets! This inspiration and vibrancy draws pupils forward and we are so fortunate to be surrounded by such talented people.

This is a special time of year that reminds us of the importance of renewal, hope and new beginnings. Whether you are celebrating with family and friends, participating in religious services, or simply taking some time for yourself, I hope this holiday period allows you time to recharge and reflect. Thank you to everyone for the joyfulness you have shown this Spring Term. I hope you can feel some of the excitement, energy and fun of the term throughout its pages.

With Easter blessings to you all.

SENIOR SCHOOL DANCE LIVE!



Written by Katharine Rustell for *The Mayville Post*, our student voice magazine:

Dance Live! is an annual competition centred around exploring our interests and having fun. Our theme this year was the well-known musical *Les Misérables*.

After several months of hard work, the team headed to the Guildhall to prepare for the performance. The other schools' stories were varied and cleverly constructed, yet Mayville were determined to make a splash.

Once the final run-throughs and collective warm up were over, the team headed back to the dressing room to get into character.

Despite not getting through to the next round, Mayville won both the Fellowship Award and the Costume Award.





JUNIOR SCHOOL

DANCE LIVE!



Our Junior *Dance Live!* Team closed the show in their regional heat at Portsmouth Guildhall with a performance of *Spectacular Seuss*. Our dancers had a lot of fun portraying the characters from the popular children's books.

We were awarded for costume and video journey and finished in second place on the night, earning a place in the finals on 25th April.

We are incredibly excited to represent Mayville on stage in the finals for the second year running. Ticket sales for the event open on 2nd April and we hope to see parents, families and friends cheering on our performers!





Shakespeare Schools Festival

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Head of English, Mrs Matthias-Rosser, writes:

On Tuesday 12th March, Mayville took part in the annual *Shakespeare Schools Festival* at The New Theatre Royal in Portsmouth. This is the world's largest youth drama festival which gives young people the chance to develop their confidence and find their voice on a professional stage.

This year, the Creative Arts department with support from the English department had been working hard with pupils since the Autumn Term, to put together an abridged version of the Shakespearean comedy *Much Ado about Nothing*. The cast, made up of pupils from all year groups in the senior school, had been rehearsing for months and finally got to spend the day at the theatre putting together the finishing touches before performing back-to-back with three other schools to a paying, evening audience. As well as acting, Mayville pupils were also working behind the scenes helping with the lighting and sound.



Mrs Hardcastle and myself were delighted to attend the evening, to watch the final performance and we were not disappointed. The staging was intuitive, highlighting the many structural parallels the play contains, and the acting was of an exceptionally high standard. Benedick (Harry Wallace) and Beatrice (Ava Banerjee) had the audience eating out of their hands, making the audience laugh and sigh as their relationship moved from witty disdain to heartfelt love. There were strong performances across the whole cast who worked brilliantly together on stage to bring to life the world of Messina. On top of all of this, were some genius choices of music, the favourite of the night being *Suddenly* by Angry Anderson, bringing back memories of Scott and Charlene's wedding for those in the crowd old enough to remember (iconic TV wedding from *Neighbours* for those too young to remember 1988!).

The huge applause they received as they brought the play to its satisfying closure was well deserved. I was told a member of the theatre team had said to our pupils that theirs was the best performance of *Much Ado* they had ever seen. I am not surprised. I felt the same.

Well done Mayville! I can't wait to see which play you decide to perform next year.





The annual Mayville Ski Trip

AN ALPINE ADVENTURE





Rather than taking the coach down through France, we decided to travel by plane this year, to reduce travelling time. However, the flight was delayed after boarding and we sat on the tarmac for what felt like an eternity... best laid plans! After our somewhat protracted journey, we eventually arrived safely in Sestriere in the Italian Alps.

The week was bookended by some very heavy snowfall but the sun came out midweek and we enjoyed good skiing conditions, a lot of fresh powder and a barrage of snowballs! Our Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced groups all skied beautifully and made great progress.

We couldn't be more proud of how our pupils jelled together as a team and can't wait to do it all again next year.







EASTER FESTIVITIES



After the excitement of the Easter bonnet parade in St Simon's church, the decorated eggs were next to be judged.

There were some amazing creations from Vivian Eggwood the fashion designer, an egguestrian centre, G7-egg flags and beautifully decorated chocolate eggs.

Winners of the decorated eggs and Easter bonnets were chosen from each class and they each received an Easter egg for their prize.

Our overall winner was Beau F, with a fantastic Easter rabbit bonnet.





As part of our 'Ready, Steady, Grow' topic, we welcomed a couple of new additions to Reception (L1). Meet our hatchlings, Chirpy & Swiftly!

A love of **ENGLISH** LANGUAGE



PORTSMOUTH SCHOOLS LIT QUIZ

We took two teams to the Portsmouth Schools Lit Quiz. Pupils from Years 7-8 (Rem-L4) competed against 15 teams from local schools.

Mayville A & Mayville B both amassed 50 points to finish joint second – congratulations Kaitlyn, Joshua C, Noah, Katharine, George P, Sam T, Saakshyat and Eve; with a special mention to Eve who won a three-way tie to claim a round prize for her team!

AWARD WINNING AUTHOR VISIT

Mrs Hardcastle writes:

Book Week is always a special occasion in the Senior School and one that pupils and staff alike look forward to. This year was no exception. We were treated to an inspiring visit from author, Patrice Lawrence MBE FRSL, who visited to share with us her extensive range of books, which includes *Rat*, *Needle* and *Orangeboy*.

Patrice engaged her audience with a journey through her childhood – from being born to an unmarried mother in a society of white married families, being privately fostered until the age of 4 and then returning to her mother – and gave an invaluable insight into her motivation for writing. Growing up, she saw few families like hers in the literature she read and was determined to change that. Acutely aware that modern society is made up of many types of families – children in adoptive and foster families, lone parents, children living in residential care or being raised by friends or family carers – she wanted to reflect back the lives of many children missing from books. In her words, 'All of these children deserve to be the heroes and heroines of stories.'

Her visit was incredibly inspiring and reminded us all, not only of the power of literature but about how important it is that we can see ourselves in the stories we read.





REVISION ON TOUR – MACBETH

The English department took a group of year 11 (U5) pupils to see *Revision on Tour: Macbeth* at the King's Theatre in Southsea, as part of their final preparations for the forthcoming GCSE examinations.

Narrated by The Porter, the 85 minute abridged version gave a fantastic and valuable insight into the plot, main characters and themes of play. Key quotations were delivered by the seven members of the cast with aplomb, allowing for a memorable and engaging revision experience for all.



WORLD BOOK DAY

In conjunction with Waterstones Portsmouth, we were able to offer pupils the opportunity to each choose a free book with a World Book Day £1 token. From picture books to young adult fiction, there was something for readers of all ages.



YOUTH SPEAKS 2024

Article written by Freya Scowen.

Originally published in The Mayville Post.

What a year for Mayville's debaters, with both teams getting through to the next heat. The restrictions were tight, giving 5 minutes for each person and only 30 seconds allowed either over or under.

The intermediate team had Eve (Y7/Rem) proposing that AI is a beneficial tool and should be embraced whereas Kaitlyn-Marie (Y8/L4) argued against AI saying that AI is a dangerous weapon and should be stopped. Isabelle (Y7/Rem) was the chairperson and smoothly transitioned between the debates.

The senior team consisted of Charlie (Y9/U4) acting as chair and James (Y10/L5) proposing that billionaires should pay a higher tax rate than current to help support underprivileged people and Freya (Y10/L5) as the opposer.

The second heat was held at Portsmouth High School and the competition was tough but due to hard work paying off the intermediate team got through to the semi-finals.

Congratulations to Eve, who won best intermediate speaker award. Well done to everyone involved!

In pursuit of **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**



BOOK WEEK

A firm favourite on the school calendar is our annual Book Week, with a range of fun activities centred around instilling a love of reading for pleasure.

This year's activities included a talk and book signing with Andy Seed, the junior lit quiz, 'Book in a Box' and, of course, dress-up day, with prizes awarded for the best costumes.



PUBLISHED ARTISTS

During October half-term holiday club, we ran an activity in conjunction with afterschoolclub.net for pupils to design their perfect pet. Artwork from five of our pupils was selected for publication. Congratulations to Ivy (Y1/U1), Louis & Jasper (Y2/L2) and Henry & Matthew (Y5/M3), who can proudly call themselves published artists!



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK ASSEMBLY

In the last assembly of the Spring Term, Mr Stringer gave a British Science Week-linked presentation about satellites. He brought in his amateur radio satellite ground station and gave six junior pupils a chance to speak to other licensed amateur radio operators in Scotland, The Netherlands, Germany and South Africa. The pupils asked questions to find out about the places where they lived, the local time, weather and so on.

The received audio from the satellite was relayed over the PA system in the assembly hall so all the pre-prep and junior pupils could hear the conversation. Their faces were a picture when our first contact came on with the words, "Hello, this is Gary here, greetings from South Africa". The pupils were brilliant, not at all shy on the microphone and spoke clearly and confidently and really enjoyed the experience.

INTER-HOUSE POETRY COMPETITION

On the final afternoon of this term, the Junior School held their Inter-House Poetry Competition. All of the pupils who entered wowed their peers with their poetry recitals.

The judges had very difficult decisions to make as all the competitors were so confident. Each year group had a first, second and third place, winning house marks for their respective houses.

Y1/U1 – 1st place for Austen – Annabelle
Y2/L1 – 1st place for Cavell – Bertie
Y3/U2 – Joint 1st place for Cavell – Rayyan
and Nelson – Maddie
Y4/L3 – 1st place for Cavell – Channing
Y5/M3 – 1st place for Nelson – Ibai
Y6/U3 – Joint 1st place for Austen – Adam
and Cavell – Felix

The points were totalled up and the results were:
3rd place – Austen
2nd place – Nelson
1st place – Cavell



Learning to learn...

NURSERY & PRE-PREP

READY STEADY GROW

Pupils in Reception (L1) have been planting flowers and vegetable scraps, as part of their topic, 'Ready Steady Grow'.

They have also been lucky enough to have some frogspawn, so watching these grow into tadpoles and start developing legs has been very exciting.



Towards the end of term, pupils got to see their eggs hatch and we were joined in class by some very noisy chicks!



PRE-PREP ICT

In ICT, Year 2 (L2) have been looking at representing and collecting data in various forms such as tally charts and pictograms. Pupils used a programme on the computer and answered questions in order to interpret the data.





SHINE ENRICHMENT

During our enrichment sessions this term, pupils have been exploring a range of exciting study techniques, including building with Lego, creating route maps and programming robots.



SENIOR PSHE

Head of PSHE, Mrs Hardcastle writes:

It has been another busy term for the PSHE department and it has been a joy to observe the teaching and learning that has taken place in lessons across all year groups. I am most proud of the fabulous discussions in classrooms, with pupils showing incredible sensitivity and empathy about highly-emotive subjects. It is through these vital lessons that pupils develop their understanding of the risks they may encounter and how they can safely and skilfully navigate their way through their lives.

As a department, we not only respond to the needs of our pupils through the pupil-voice platform but also to key societal issues. We have all seen the shocking statistics surrounding adolescent mental health with The Mental Health Foundation reporting that '20% of adolescents may experience a mental health problem in any given year and 50% of these are established by the age of 14'. We also know that male suicide rates remain at a frighteningly high level and continue to account for three-quarters of all suicide deaths in the UK (ONS 2022). In reaction to comments that surfaced last week in the media about adult mental health, the mental health charity Mind reiterated its stance that the UK is in the grips of a mental health crisis and urgent support is needed for those who are struggling.

Additionally, violence against women and girls (VAWG) remains a key focus throughout society. A report released by the Domestic Homicide Project in March showed that for the first time ever, the number of victim suicides following domestic abuse is overtaking the number of partner homicides (approximately two women a week are killed by a partner or ex-partner). These are all worrying figures for anyone raising or working with children.

In order to equip our pupils with the knowledge they need of the potential risks to themselves, their peers and their families, we use a spiral curriculum at Mayville. We revisit topics in different key stages and this allows us to build on the foundations we have laid in the lower years and to develop the depth and breadth of the material we use, as pupils progress through the school.

To me,

I don't say this enough, but I appreciate you.

You've had many challenges, but you have also had triumphs.

The good you have done matters - the big and the small.

You are capable. You deserve kindness.

I am grateful for you.

Love,
me

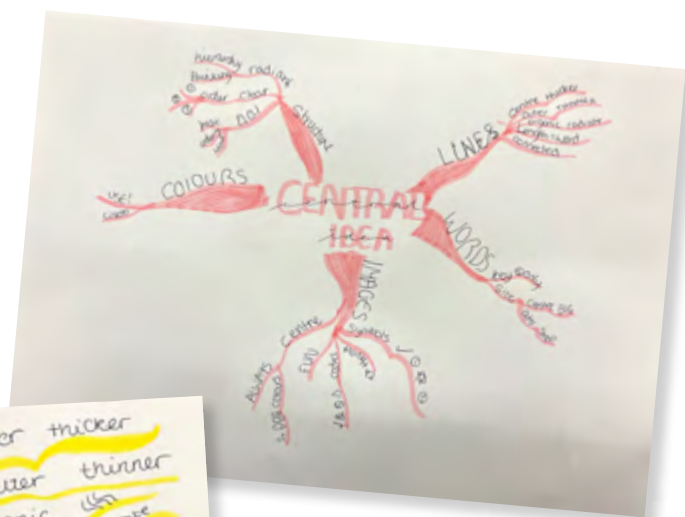
The word "Mind" is written in a blue, handwritten script. To the left of the word is a blue circular logo consisting of several overlapping, hand-drawn loops.

This term, pupils in Year 7 (Remove) spent their lessons looking at healthy routines for wellbeing and how to promote their self-esteem. Year 8 (L4) explored mental health and body image and Year 9 (U4) discussed healthy lifestyles and the links between physical and mental wellbeing. Year 10 (L5) focussed on how they can safeguard their mental health, especially during periods of transition, as well as the challenges of intimate relationships. The topic for Year 11 (U5) was on safe, intimate relationships with a particular focus on how to recognise and seek support for relationship abuse. Whilst these are challenging subjects, they are essential if we want to help the pupils at Mayville to live safe and fulfilling lives.

Pupils in Year 9 (U4) have also been utilising the Morrisby: Careers Advice & Guidance Online Platform in their lessons, to investigate the potential educational and career opportunities available. This unit not only helps pupils think about the paths they may follow after Mayville but also assists them when making their GCSE option choices. Careers is an integral part of the PSHE curriculum and there are exciting plans afoot to develop more lessons and workshops for all years in the senior school when Mrs Vincent-Skinner takes over as the Careers Co-ordinator after Easter.

We have also had the pleasure of hosting workshops for Year 9 (U4) and we welcomed back the NHS nurses from *Let's Talk About It* who discussed contraception and sexual health with the pupils.

Year 10 (L5) also participated in a mind map session delivered by returning speaker, Andy Hayward, from Revision Mentor, so they have some really valuable tools at their disposal to begin their revision for the end-of-year exams in May.



Finally, as we look ahead to the new term, we would like to share with you all the new topics that the pupils will be studying.

	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Year 7 (Remove)	Financial Decision Making	Building Relationships
Year 8 (L4)	Identity and Relationships	Work and Careers
Year 9 (U4)	Intimate Relationships	Democracy & Politics
Year 10 (L5)	Preparing for Work	The Legal System

SPRINGBOARD DANCE COMP

Head of Creative Arts, Miss Doughty writes:

A successful evening! Mayville were crowned winners of the Under 16 group category at Springboard Dance Competition with their entry *Stressed Out*.

The team spirit was so evident amongst our dancers, as the only age categories were under 16 or over 16. All three of our pieces were in the same competition category, yet they were all so supportive of each other – the older ones helping the younger ones, the younger ones looking up to the older ones and trying to do their dance routines and just a generally wonderful atmosphere.

A real treat to work with these children!





PROFESSIONAL MASTERCLASS

RUSSELL STOKES

In the first of our Creative Arts workshops, we were joined by professional dancer, Russell Stokes, who took junior and senior extension group dancers through Bollywood-inspired routines.

Originally from Portsmouth, Russell trained at the Classique School of Dance before gaining a scholarship to Millennium Performing Arts in London.

Since graduating in 2015, Russell has performed in extravagant and exciting shows around the world with Aida Cruise Lines as a solo dancer and Dance Captain, Fred Olsen Cruise Lines as a singer / dancer. Then, most recently, Norwegian Cruise Line as a singer / dancer and Dance Captain. For the past two years, Russell has performed in Portsmouth's Kings Theatre as a dancer in the pantomime and is very soon set to return to Oceania as a singer.





PROFESSIONAL MASTERCLASS

TALIA DUFF

In our second dance workshop, we were joined by professional dancer, Talia Duff. Talia is currently performing in *Shrek: The Musical* UK & Ireland Tour, before heading to the West End with the show later this year. She took our dancers through a couple of routines, encouraging pupils to channel their favourite fairytale characters from Duloc and Far Far Away.

Talia's previous theatre credits include: *A Night at the Theatre* (Abu Dhabi); *42nd Street* (Theatre Du Chatelet, Paris); *Beauty and the Beast* (Chelmsford Civic Theatre); *Sleeping Beauty* (Chelmsford Civic Theatre); *The Spirit of the Ring, Aladdin* (The White Rock Theatre, Qdos); *Cinderella* (Chelmsford Civic Theatre); *Billy Elliot the Musical* (Victoria Palace Theatre, London's West End); *Elton John's 7th Anniversary Gala* (Victoria Palace Theatre, London's West End).

Other credits include: *1 day, 2 nights* – HRVY music video (BMG & Lightening Films).





Rounding up **CREATIVE ARTS**



PERFORMING IN THE COMMUNITY

A group of Junior musicians went to entertain the residents at St Vincent's care home. They played and sang a selection of tunes from well-known musicals and at the end one of the residents asked to sing the National Anthem.

MADDY HITS 150!



Maddy (Y7/Rem) has just finished an 18-month run of *Frozen the Musical*; performing in over 150 shows (an achievement unmatched by anyone else who has performed the role). Max Ivemey interviewed her for our pupil newspaper *The Mayville Post*.

What is your role like in Frozen?

In Frozen, I play Young Anna and it's a really fun role because I get to go crazy! I also swap roles during the show to play a troll and then I go back to Young Anna.

What does your role take to commit?

In my year and a half of doing the show, I've performed in 157 shows. I get up at 7:30 to catch a train to London and the shows starts at 2:30. Then we would get dinner before another show at 7:30.

What's your favourite part about doing the show for so long?

My favourite part is making lots of friends with the cast and the people on standby because they're my best friends now. I have had two different teams since I've started. My first team all went for a year and my last team were all going six months, so our teams change a bit.

Have you got any plans for what's next?

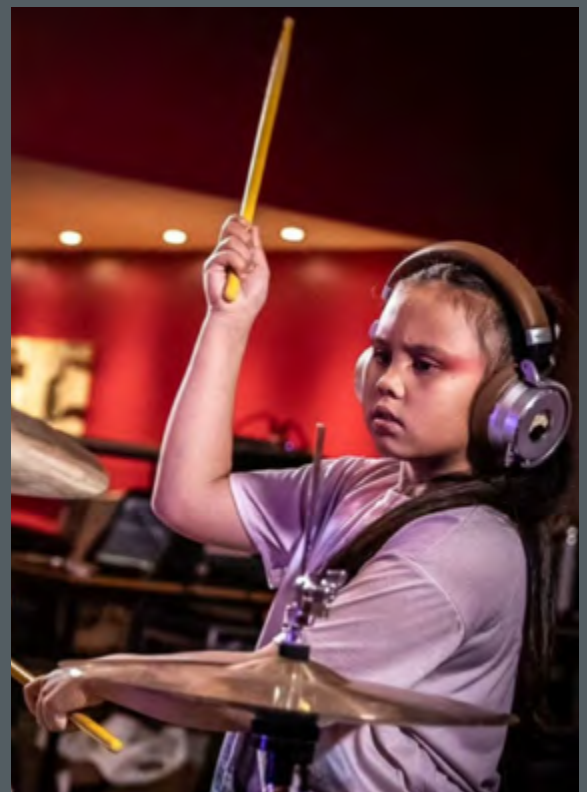
I would like to audition for Matilda in *Matilda*, or for a role in *Mrs Doubtfire*!



ABRSM EXAMS

Congratulations to the following pupils, who took their ABRSM exams this term:

Hannah Smith	Grade 1 Piano	Pass
Poppy Taylor	Grade 1 Piano	Pass
Dylan Porter	Grade 2 Singing	Pass



UK DRUM SHOW

Successfully auditioning from hundreds of applications, Mia in Year 5 (M3) has been selected to perform at UK Drum Show, which is the biggest of its kind in Europe. Congratulations, Mia!

Rounding up **SPRING SPORT**



ARTISTIC SWIMMING

After a gruelling trial process, Isla in Year 9 (U4) has been selected to represent the South East England Regional Artistic Swimming Squad. Congratulations, Isla!



RUGBY

Tabitha (also Y9/U4) has been selected to join the South Central Regional Academy for girls U14 rugby 7s.

She will now attend regional training sessions with a potential for selection for the age group national team. The coaching team for this includes two current GB / Harlequins women's team members Lauren Torley and Ellie Boatman.

She first started playing the sport at Mayville's weekly lunchtime girls rugby club, before joining Havant Rugby Club last year. Congratulations, Tabitha!

JUNIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



On one of the few dry game weeks this term, Mayville's U10 girls travelled to Oakwood School for their football festival. The aim of the event was to 'provide girls with the opportunity to play and enjoy their football', formatted as a seven-game round robin tournament to maximise playing time for all.

The afternoon's action was played in good spirits, as the junior girls gained invaluable experience across each of their games. Throughout the festival, they improved with each match, earning good results against strong opposition. Standout performers Mia and Suzanna in defence ensured a hard time for every opposition attacker, while Sadie-Rose and Tillie formed a strong partnership up-front to cause constant problems for each team's defence.

Special mention also must go to Hannah, who played as goalkeeper for the majority of the tournament. Her efforts earned Mayville four clean sheets across seven games, whilst only conceding three goals all afternoon.

Mayville's effort and resilience paid off in the final game of the day, winning 1-0 against the hosts in a narrow contest. This nicely rounded off a successful and enjoyable day for our young footballers, who left Oakwood buzzing from their performances.

JUNIOR INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY



On a bright spring day (yes, we had one!), the Junior School gathered at the playing fields for our annual inter-house cross country event.

All participants put in a remarkable effort but, after tallying and confirming the scores, Austen emerged as the victorious house. The timings were exceptional, with Joy being the fastest junior girl and Rafferty claiming the title of the fastest junior boy. Congratulations to all the participants for their involvement in this event.



RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP



COUNCIL OF PORTSMOUTH STUDENTS (CoPS)

Article written by Freya Scowen.

Originally published in The Mayville Post.

CoPS (City of Portsmouth Students) is an opportunity to meet with other schools in Portsmouth and discuss how to tackle social issues facing us today.

There are four action groups in total: The Education Nation, Mental Mentos, Tree Huggers and Equality Queens. So far CoPS has promoted the Red Box Project and has really focused on tackling school issues such as bullying and careers.

CoPS is a great opportunity to meet new people and make connections with people, such as Dorleen Shim, who helps lead students into what careers they would like to do.

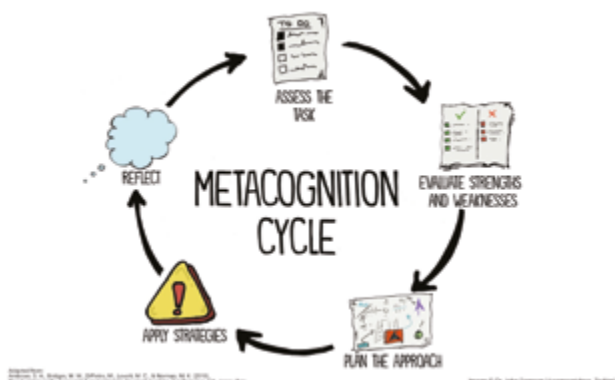
OUR NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS 2024

Article written by Max Ivmey.
Originally published on our blog, Chorus.



At Mayville, we've set ourselves some New Year's resolutions that will help push our academic boundaries. We've set achievable goals that are easy to change but will have big impacts by seeing what we do well in school, what we struggle with, and how to improve. For example, studying for an extra hour a week or improving handwriting.

For our first assembly back in 2024, Mrs Matthias-Rosser talked about how to set realistic goals using the Metacognition Cycle. First, we evaluate our strengths and weaknesses, we then think about how to improve on our weaknesses, and then we apply the strategy.



We also looked at Benjamin Zephaniah, a poet, born Benjamin Springer, who had dyslexia and was expelled from his school in Birmingham because he couldn't read or write.



After some prison time, he moved to London to start a new life under a new name. You may have heard of his poems, such as *Talking Turkeys*, and was so successful that he was given a name which means 'treasured by god' and even refused an OBE.

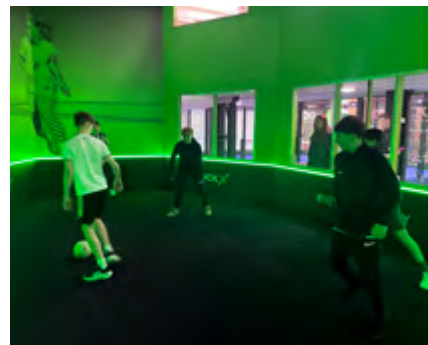
We learned about how to be motivated for our resolutions and why some resolutions don't even make it past the first week of January. We learned about the top 10 worldwide resolutions, then we wrote down our own resolutions. Year 11 (U5) focussed theirs on their upcoming exams.

Resolutions included 'to use my phone less' and 'to revise hard and pass maths.'

Overall, the most common resolutions in Mayville in 2024 were:

- Try to eat healthier.
- Try to become more organised.
- Try to get a higher grade average in lessons.
- Try to improve my handwriting.
- Try to work out more.
- To help my family and friends.

So good luck to everyone with keeping their New Year's resolutions and let's have a great 2024 here at Mayville.



Mayville Sports Academy

During the first week of the Easter Holidays, we took 30 children to visit revolutionary new football centre, Kick X, in Surrey. Pupils had the chance to take part in a wide variety of skills-based activities, including foot-tennis, teqball and panna. The centre even included a recreation of the famous *Soccer AM* set, with the authentic goal, rebound net and hoardings from the iconic program (although the reference may have been lost on them!)

Places on this trip booked up in record time and we are already planning activities for summer's Sports Academy. Please keep an eye on emails and our social media channels, so you don't miss out!



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