



## REMINDERS

Dinner money must be paid in advance. The cost is £2.45 per day or £12.25 per week. The office can bill payments termly if required. Don't forget to pay online using ParentPay. Ask the office for details of how to set up.

If your child is unable to come into school, please contact the school as soon as possible in the morning before 9am registration. Please keep us informed of continued absences.

In order to keep our records up to date, let us know if there are any changes to your address or telephone numbers for both you and any other contacts. Up to date information is vital should there be an emergency and we need to contact you.

Please can we remind visitors that Mayfield School is a NO PHONE ZONE

Remember to visit Mayfield's school website! Photos, events, trips and any latest information is regularly updated.

[www.mayfieldtorbay.org](http://www.mayfieldtorbay.org)

# MAYFIELD NEWS

Spring 1  
2024



## Welcome

Dear Families and Friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter of Spring 2024.

We are very proud to share the incredible achievements and efforts of the pupils at Chestnut, College and School.

We hope you enjoy reading about their fantastic learning adventures and wonderful progress and development.

Our sincere thanks for your ongoing collaboration and support.

Kind regards,

Stuart Heron  
Headteacher

## UPCOMING DATES

**Monday 19th February**  
First Day of Spring 2 Term

**Wednesday 27th March**  
Easter Celebration Morning

**Thursday 28th March**  
Last Day of Spring 2 Term

**Friday 29th March**  
Good Friday

**Monday 1st April**  
Easter Monday

**Monday 15th April**  
First Day of Summer 1 Term







## Hairdressing

Over at Combe Pafford, some pupils from Class 16 have been working hard on their hairdressing skills. During these sessions they have learnt to wash each others hair at the specialist basins, various blowdrying techniques, reception skills as well as the proper procedures to cut and create a variety of hairstyles using the manequins.



## CREATIVE Technology

Pupils had a chance to try their artistic skills with our new iPens In Creative Technology lessons.

Using artistic photos of themselves as a base, they used the iPens to create their own Pop Art pieces, inspired by the artist Keith Haring.

The pupils really enjoyed being able to edit and manipulate their brush strokes with the new software.



## Healthy Foods

Class 6 have been thinking about healthy foods as part of their Food Tech learning. Following step by step instructions and with support from staff, they prepared salad sandwiches. They washed and prepared lettuce, tomato, cucumber and spring onion, then buttered the bread before eating their tasty creations! Well done Class 6.

## MEET THE GOVERNORS



### Simon Gardiner

My name is Simon Gardiner and I have worked with young people and families for over thirty years now and at present, work in Torbay Children's Services.

My interest as a Mayfield Governor is for me, around the emotional well-being of young people and their safety. My aim is that Mayfield remains aspirational for young people, empowering them to be the best they can be, supporting new experiences and pushing boundaries along the way to adulthood and beyond.







## Prehistoric Topic - Dinosaurs

The theme for learning this term for our Primary pupils was Prehistoric Dinosaurs.

In Maths sessions, pupils took to counting dinosaurs, sorting eggs into size order and colour matching. Prehistoric themed books were on offer for English and reading sessions and in Art, pupils made papier-mache dino eggs and even sculpted their own dinosaurs from modelling clay!

Moving further along the timeline, pupils then explored the Palaeolithic period, learning about Neanderthals and prehistoric mammals. Some classes recreated cave environments using desks where pupils climbed inside and created their own cave paintings.

Pupils in Class 9 went digging for dinosaur bones, carefully excavating them from the sand. They also had fun with fizzing dinosaur eggs, watching the water change colour as they dissolved in the water.







Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will see from the newsletter the students at Mayfield College have had a very positive start to 2024. It may have been a cold start to the year, but our students have still accessed the community and their work placements with enthusiasm.

I would like to take the opportunity to thanks all the parents who attended our Provision Fayre; the feedback has been very positive.

Have a lovely half-term break everyone!

Rachel Hawthorne  
Head of College

## Provisions Fayre

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents, carers, providers and services who attended our annual Provision Fayre on the 31st January. The event was held for parents and carers of students in Year 9 and above with the aim to support information sharing and planning for the future. Feedback from the event was hugely positive, with parents sharing:

*'The people we spoke with were very friendly and helpful. They have helped us think about questions for the next step and we are less worried about the future.'*

*'We had a really great tour of the college; very pleased with the information on offer.'*



We were also pleased to see some students who have left Mayfield and gone on to exciting new ventures including supported living, South Devon College and supported internships.

If anyone would like further information on future steps, visit the 'Careers and Preparing for Life' section of our website or speak to Hayley at the College.



## LIFE & Living

This half term our Life & Living students have had the opportunity to help Sue at Dorbri Stables. They have been mucking out, topping up buckets with fresh water and taking the horses for a walk.

The students have been following instructions from Kaden, a student from our Independent Learning pathway, who modelled tasks they needed to complete.

The focus for community access this half term has been possible next steps options after college, where students had a tour of ROC Active and explored the options on offer at the Provisions Fayre. They also visited No Limits Cafe where they discussed what skills are needed to work in a cafe and whether this would be something they would be interested in. Whilst at the cafe they also practised their reading skills with the menu and utilised Maths skills, ordering and paying for drinks.

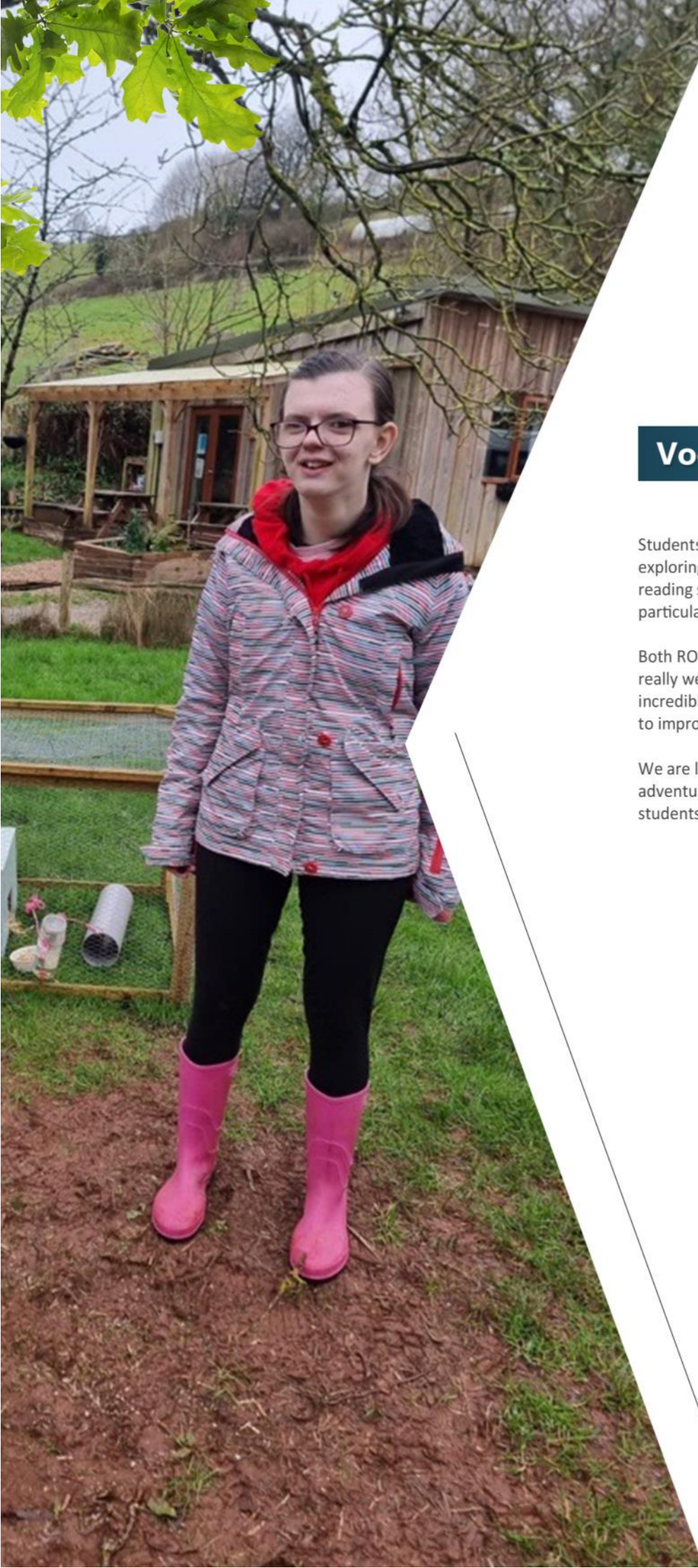
Next half term they hope to consolidate Maths and English skills visiting the Social Supermarket.

## SKILLS for Life

Our Skills for Life group have been building new relationships, fostering independence and mastering valuable life skills. The students have enjoyed trips to the moors, National Coast Watch and work experience at Stover and Occombe Farm. They have focussed on building independence, navigating public transport and mastering cooking skills.





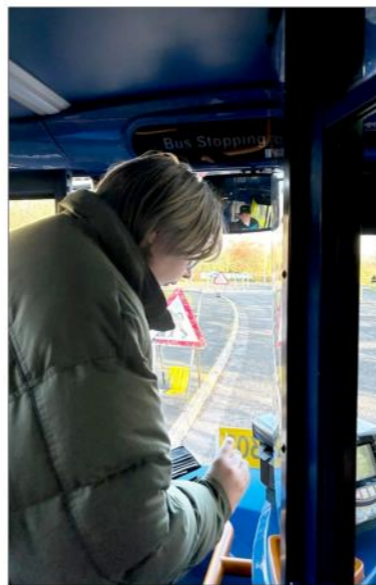


## Vocational

Students in our Vocational pathway have been out and about exploring the local area whilst practising their functional reading skills and use of public transport. The students particularly enjoyed visiting The Box in Plymouth.

Both ROC Farm and Ocombe Farm work experience is going really well and the progress our students are making is incredible. They have also started swimming at a local hotel to improve fitness which has been another popular excursion.

We are looking forward to seeing what progress and adventures the next half term has in store for our Vocational students.



## TRANSITION

Our Transition students have had a great start to 2024, visiting next step provisions which have included Turning Heads, South Devon College and ROC. They have also spent time practising their swimming skills, as well as perfecting dance skills and life skills in college and excelling in their chosen work experience placements.



## Work Experience STARS

**Erin**  
Volunteering at the Aztec Gift Shop.

**Tamzin**  
Enjoying her placement in Class 7 at Mayfield School.

**Luke**  
Perfecting his personal trainer skills at The Gym Group.

**Tia, Shaun, Amie & Mickey**  
Continuing to learn the many skills needed to help run Ocombe Farm.







## INDEPENDENT LEARNING

Students in our Independent Learning Pathway have been focusing on improving their cooking skills. Over the course of the term, they have created a range of meals including meatballs, pasta and curry as well as a tasty selection of desserts.

In computing, the students recorded their own podcasts about different films and TV shows. This has helped develop their writing, reading and communication skills. We are very proud of our learners this half term!



## Engagement

We have had another busy term in the Engagement Pathway.

As always the students have been working hard on their reading, using the Functional Whole Word Reading Scheme, and matching items to photographs or photographs to words.

Students are also working on their writing skills and have been either writing or recognising their names so they can sign in to college every day.

They have continued to work on their independent living skills, focusing on the most important meal of the day; breakfast.

Finally, as it is almost Valentine's Day, the students have been making canvases in Art sessions to share with their families.







## LEGO THERAPY

Lego Therapy has been going extremely well, with communication and language skills developing with each session.

Pupils have been working together in groups of 3 to build sets with 3 individual roles, which has encouraged them to use skills such as patience and team work.



## School Tidy

Pupils in Elm and Maple classes spent some time tidying around their classrooms and clearing leaves. In anticipation of the nicer weather they wanted to make the spaces ready to play in.

All the pupils worked together, displaying some great team work and were able to ask for help when they needed it.



## TALKING TURNS Oracy project

The Talking Turns project explores building on pupil's oracy skills through drama and related arts techniques.

Polly and Jack from the project have been working with Maple class, playing games and telling stories.

Every session has been great fun and the pupils have displayed a greater sense of confidence in their oracy.





## GAMING CREATIONS



The topic for this term was Gaming Creations and pupils from Willow, Oak and Palm enjoyed a topic launch day earlier in the term. They spent the day socialising in different groups, and playing a variety of games with different peers, which was a great way for pupils to work on turn taking and how to take a win or loss well in a game.

They discussed the different consoles and game platforms, thinking about how the technology and interactions differ between them. Staff members came to school dressed as popular characters which the pupils really loved!



## Forever FOOTBALL



## CHESTNUT NEWS

### CULINARY CREATIONS

Elm class gave their own twist to a fast food favourite by creating their own Big Mac Tacos.

They cooked the mince and made their own sauce, resulting in a healthier version of a Big Mac which was extra tasty!

