

*The*

# REGISTER

ISSUE 1 | WINTER 2019.



WELCOME TO THE NEW LOOK MAYVILLE NEWS



## EDITOR'S NOTES...

Hello and welcome to the first edition of 'The Register' – Mayville's new look newsletter. You might have seen me around the school and events over the last half-term (usually behind a camera). I recently joined Mayville as Marketing & Development Director, having already worked with the school for a number of years, designing the prospectus and external advertising campaigns. This new role will allow me to oversee the website, social media and all other communication as part of a wider strategy.

My career spans over twenty years in brand and strategic comms, most of which has been running independent Southsea-based design studios and creative consultancies. The guiding principle behind my work has always been to create positive relationships with people and organisations that I believe in, that are doing great things and help them to tell their story, better. My wife teaches English in the Senior School and we chose Mayville for our children. Mayville is a special place and it has been a special part of my life for the last 14 years.

Parent advocacy is our greatest strength – word of mouth and recommendation continues to be our most effective form of marketing and I am hoping to form even closer links with the Mayville family, in order to help the school continue to flourish. I have started speaking with parents about what we can do better. If you have any ideas or suggestions, or would like to be part of a parents' forum, then please email me on:

[n.hardcastle@mayvillehighschool.net](mailto:n.hardcastle@mayvillehighschool.net)



Neil Hardcastle  
Marketing &  
Development Director

*Over the next few months, our aim is to make 'The Register' more a magazine than a newsletter, reporting on all aspects of Mayville life and celebrating our successes and achievements, both in and out of school. If you wish to share your stories with us, then please email:*

[news@mayvillehighschool.net](mailto:news@mayvillehighschool.net)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

*The Autumn Term is always an exceptionally busy one, providing a wealth of opportunities for Mayville to showcase its wide variety of talents:*

Our annual **Prizegiving Concert** gives us the chance to reflect on the year's achievements. This year's celebration was dedicated to Mr Babcock, who retired as Chair of Trustees earlier this year, after an illustrious 39 years of service to the school.

Elsewhere in the **creative life** of the school, we took part in a number of festive activities out and about in the local Southsea community.

We also staged our most ambitious Christmas production to date – 'When Sasha Got Swept Up The Chimney'. Four performances over three days, with a chance for all of our Nursery and Junior pupils to take to the stage and have their chance to shine.

Our Head Boy, **Matthew Wicks** has had an incredible year in sport, taking a gold and two silvers, as part of the Mayville team that competed at the ISA National Swimming Finals. He also represented Great Britain in the Biathlon World Championships in the USA at half-term.

Elsewhere in **sport**, our teams have competed in a number of fixtures throughout the term and we are proud to see the launch of Girls Football at Mayville.

As election fever swept the nation, Junior and Senior pupils undertook their own **election campaigns**, as part of our PSHE programme.

We were proud to announce our first **Ambassador of Reading**. Local author Amber Lee Dodd has been appointed to promote the importance of reading for pleasure.

In another first, we launched Mayville's **parent & baby group**, offering a free weekly drop-in to families in the local community.





*In the spotlight...*

# MATTHEW WICKS

Yr11 | HEAD BOY

Year 11 (UV)'s Matthew Wicks is enjoying incredible success in his sporting endeavours. He swims for local team Portsmouth Northsea and has represented the school for a number of years at the Independent Schools' Association Swimming Galas.

In this term's competition, a storming victory in the 100m Backstroke in the Regional Finals gave him automatic qualification to compete in the National Finals at London Aquatics Centre, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

Competing in the national schools' event, Matthew claimed age-group gold in the 100m Backstroke and silver in both the Individual Medley Relay and the Freestyle Relay. Mayville teammate Naomi Robinson, in her fifth year of being selected for the National Finals, won gold in both the Individual Medley Relay and the Freestyle Relay.

Mayville continues to go from strength to strength in swimming, with all of the team at the Regional Finals achieving personal best times. Matthew's sister, Rebecca (Yr 8/LIV) placed 2nd in the Backstroke and 3rd in the 50m Freestyle.

In addition to being a keen footballer, representing both the school team and local Portsmouth Youth Football League side, Cowplain Youth FC, Matthew has also represented Mayville at ISA Athletics and Cross-Country.

Combining two of his sporting passions, Matthew also competes in Biathle (or Modern Biathlon). This is a continuous run-swim-run competition that has its roots in Modern Pentathlon.



During half-term, he travelled to St Petersburg, USA to represent Great Britain in the World Biathle Championships. He placed 10th in the U17 Male category – an outstanding

achievement. Well done Matthew, we are proud to continue to support you in your sporting pursuits and wish you every success in the future.





This year's Prizegiving Concert was dedicated to Mr Babcock, who retired earlier this year after 39 years as Chair of Trustees. The school will remain forever grateful for his unwavering dedication and support.

Pupils, staff, friends of Mayville and last year's leavers joined us, as awards and prizes were distributed for effort and achievement in academic, sporting and creative pursuits.

The evening celebrated the very best of Mayville and showcased our pupils' diverse talents in spoken word, dance, performance and singing. Some of the highlights from the evening are featured on our YouTube Channel, available to view [here](#).





We pride ourselves on an excellent track record in developing pupils' individual creative talents and passions. More importantly, our educational philosophy is built upon all children having the opportunity to participate in the arts as a way of building essential creative problem-solving skills and being part of a team.

What do we mean by this? Even when leading a choir or performing a solo, you are still part of a group, where everyone has their part to play.

Extending this idea of creative community is never more important than at Christmas.

Over the last few weeks, Yr3 (UII) performed at the Southsea Christmas lights switch-on, Yr6 (UIII) sang carols for the Rotary Club at Cascades, Reception (LI) entertained residents at Clarendon Rest Home, whilst a group of Yr8 (LIV) pupils performed a carol concert for the residents at St Vincent's Nursing Home in Southsea.

Our annual Carol Concert at Portsmouth Cathedral provided an opportunity for pupils, staff, parents and friends of Mayville to get together and celebrate Christmas before breaking up for the holidays.





# ‘WHEN SASHA *Got Swept Up* THE CHIMNEY’



This year's Christmas play was our most ambitious to date – an enormous production featuring all of the Nursery and Junior School, supported by our in-house light, sound and backstage crews.

We staged four performances over three days, with parents, grandparents and friends of Mayville packing Linda Owens Hall to come and watch.

‘When Sasha Got Swept Up The Chimney’ is a heart-warming tale of a group of orphans who are swept away on an epic journey, from the rooftops of London to the North Pole. As the tale unfolds, they encounter chimney sweeps, tap-dancing penguins, dancing snowflakes, elves, fairies and of course, Mr & Mrs Claus. They travel through time to witness the first nativity, before returning home to London.

We could not have staged such a large scale production without the tireless dedication of the Creative Arts department and the Nursery and Junior School staff. In true Mayville fashion, it was a real team effort, with everyone working together to deliver a highly-polished production.







### FIXTURE ROUND-UP

Football always features heavily on the Autumn Term fixture list. We fielded two U13 teams against Boundary Oak – the B team lost 6-3, the A team won 4-1, with a hat-trick from new pupil Dorian. Our U14 team (pictured above) suffered a heavy defeat at home against Portsmouth Academy School but with a number of boys playing up a year, it provided an opportunity for them to test themselves at a higher level. Other fixtures saw defeat away to Ditcham Park and an away win at Meoncross.

### BADMINTON SUCCESS

Both KS3 boys and girls badminton teams were recently crowned Portsmouth Schools champions and will represent Mayville at the Hampshire Finals in the new year.

### INDIVIDUAL SUCCESSES

Yr11 (UV)'s Connor has been selected to represent Hampshire in rugby, congratulations.

Yr10 (LV)'s Evie represented Mayville at the NSEA Show Jumping event at the Parwood Equestrian Centre in Guildford.

In tennis, James Medlow (Yr10/LV) won the British Singles Junior Open and the British Junior Doubles Open earlier this year. He is currently the British U16 Champion in both singles and doubles. Currently ranked 4th in the world at U18, he has been invited to play in the World Championships in New York next Summer.



As the profile of women's football continues to grow, we are proud to see a number of our girls actively participate with local clubs. Brooke in Yr10 (LV) plays for University of Portsmouth Community FC in the Hampshire County Girls League and we have a strong representation with local side Meon Milton Youth FC U10.

This term represented a Mayville first, as we fielded our first ever competitive fixture in girls' football. Taking on-board strong support from pupils, girls' football will be part of PE lessons from next term. See the next issue of The Register for a full write-up.





PSHE is a core part of our 'whole child' approach to education, giving pupils the opportunity to develop a strong sense of independence, agency and social responsibility.

As the country became swept up in the General Election, Senior and Junior pupils took their own look at the political landscape.

Yr6 (U11) created their own parties and spent all week on the campaign trail, promoting their cause. At the end of the week, they held a mock election to teach the rest of the Junior School about voting.

The Senior School spent a day off-timetable, learning about the General Election. Divided into groups, they spent the morning researching the different parties and their respective policies, before producing their own manifestos, campaign strategies and literature. These were delivered by the Party Leaders and Deputies at a Senior School hustings in the afternoon, before going to the ballot.

The Green Party won with 24% of the overall vote – conservation of the environment and tackling climate change proving to be the most important political issue to our pupils.



# Introducing AMBER LEE DODD



In November, we were proud to announce Portsmouth author Amber Lee Dodd as our very first Patron of Reading. In what we believe to be a first amongst local schools, her role for the academic year will be to promote reading for pleasure throughout the whole school.

According to data compiled by The Reading Agency, only 35% of 10-year-olds in England report that they like reading 'very much'. This lags behind other developed countries. Reading for pleasure is more important for children's cognitive development than their parents' level of education and is a more powerful factor in life achievement than socio-economic background. 16-year-olds who choose to read books for pleasure are more likely to secure managerial or professional jobs in later life.

Amber says, *"I hated reading when I was younger as I really struggled with it. I even ended up being the very last of my class to come off the reading books. But now I couldn't imagine going to bed without a book."* We believe that this, along with her connection to the local community, makes her the perfect ambassador to promote reading for pleasure amongst our pupils.



Amber gave an honest and inspiring talk during our whole school assembly and fielded questions from pupils, before being taken on a tour of the school with our Head Boys & Girls.

Throughout the year, Amber will be returning to Mayville for our annual Book Week in February and bringing her brand new book to the school in Summer, as part of our commitment to regular author visits; as well as setting writing competitions for pupils.





### CHILDREN IN NEED

Nursery and Junior pupils took part in Joe Wicks' 'Big Morning Move' as part of BBC Children in Need. Senior pupils made a donation to take part in our lunchtime 'Just Dance' session. In total Mayville raised £403.80



### SANTA'S GROTTO & CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our annual Christmas Fair was a roaring success. Along with the proceeds from Santa's Grotto, a total of over £1400 was raised for the PTA. Thank you to pupils, staff and parents for your generous support.



### TRAFALGAR DAY PARADE

Yr7 (Remove)'s Lucas and Josh both marched for the Portsmouth Sea Cadets for Trafalgar Day Parade at Portsmouth Guildhall.

### BEST SCHOOL

We were finalists in The Portsmouth News Readers' Choice Award for 'School of the Year'.

### D-DAY MUSEUM VOLUNTEER

Yr 9 (UIV)'s Finlay has recently started volunteering at the D-Day Museum in Southsea and has just completed his induction and training. Look out for an update on his progress in the next issue of The Register.

### NEW – MAYVILLE PARENT & BABY GROUP

This term, we launched a free weekly parent & baby (0-2 yrs) group, hosted in the Nursery. The group is open to Mayville and non-Mayville families, to pop in for coffee, cake and a chance to meet and chat with other local parents. See our Facebook page for more details.

Please can we ask you to share this with your friends and family, as we would love to see this group grow as a valued community resource and an introduction to the Mayville family.



## JANUARY

- 3-12 Junior & Senior Ski Trip, Austria
- 6 INSET DAY
- 7 INSET DAY
- 8 SPRING TERM STARTS
- 18 Yr6 (U111) Assessment Day Entry to Remove, 09:00-12:30
- 22 Yr6 (U111) Entrance Assessment (A-M), 09:00-15:30
- 23 Yr6 (U111) Entrance Assessment (N-Z), 09:00-15:30
- 24 Yr4 (L111) Assembly for Parents, TBC
- 28 Reception (L1) Parents' Information Evening, 17:00-18:00
- 29 Yr8 (L1V) Parents' Evening, 17:00-20:00

## FEBRUARY

- 5 Yr11 (UV) Parents' Evening, 17:00-20:00
- 13 PTA Meeting, 16:00-17:00
- 17-21 HALF TERM
- 27 Yr7 (Remove) Parents' Evening, 17:00-20:00

## MARCH

- 5 Yr9 (U1V) Options Evening, 19:00
- 14 Whole School Open Day, 10:00-13:00
- 18 Yr10 & 11 (LV & UV) Live Performance & GCSE Performing Arts Evening, TBC
- 20 PTA Bingo & Pizza Night, 18:30-21:00
- 24 Reception (L1) Parents' Information Evening, 17:00-18:00
- 25 Senior School PSHE Day
- 27 SPRING TERM ENDS
- 30 REVISION WEEK

*With heartfelt thanks to parents and friends of Mayville for your enthusiasm and continued support. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to working together in 2020.*

Please follow our social channels, to keep up to date with all things Mayville

