



MAYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
Founded in 1897



ANNUAL REVIEW

2021-2022

HEADTEACHER'S INTRODUCTION

It is now, in our 125th anniversary year, that we have a golden opportunity to celebrate both the successes of the past and mark out clearly our future aspirations, albeit against the backdrop of multiple crises on the world stage.

Mayville has long been established as a school that puts the formation of character on equal par with academic attainment and this late 19th century philosophy of educating the whole child has underpinned our historical success. I often reflect on how visionary our founder Charlotte West proved to be and, I hope, how immensely proud she would be of Mayville today.

It is also a chance to consider what the face of excellence looks like now in education, 125 years after Mayville first made the pledge to support and protect the wellbeing, talents and passions of its young pupils at every stage of their educational development. With an excellent curriculum, broad moral instruction and character education – which now includes a grounding in Latin, philosophy and applied ethics – I believe we remain true to our core ethos. To have a strong sense of what you are trying to achieve is to have a dependable sense of self in head, hand and heart.

With a new prospectus coming out shortly, we shall have a clear and visual reminder of how much has changed since first those principles, which underlined Mayville's inception, were laid out. Various groups advocating student voice, as well as a group of senior pupils who have just produced Mayville's very first pupil newspaper, all contribute to change within the school and they are aware of the enormous power of articulation and team spirit. Working with Mrs Matthias-Rosser as part of a lunchtime club, the pupils have been rounding up the termly news and have published issues of *The Mayville Post*.

Out from under the shadow of the pandemic, we have seen an increased fervour and need to divest ourselves of worry in performance and creative pursuits. Engaging lessons, which are fun and receptive to pupils' needs, also help develop character traits and values. Through the use of role-play, acting and discussion, pupils are able to evolve their opinions through active experience explored within a safe environment.

We are also proud of our excellent young musicians, whose dedicated practice reaps bountiful rewards at school concerts. Whether our pupils are expressing themselves through artwork, collaborative dance or the refined and deliberate mastery of an instrument, pupils can be seen aiming for and reaching goals together.

Further enrichment opportunities to consider are, of course, matters of social conscience and dilemma. The fate of Ukraine and many other global tragedies have been compassionately and proactively followed by our pupils, with time and donations well spent for the benefit of disadvantaged others.

Throughout 21/22, we continued to improve facilities at our playing fields in Eastney and the process of refurbishment will continue this academic year, as we bring together plans to refurbish the rugby pavilion. Fixtures there can now move full steam ahead and both home and away games are back in force. The School is indebted to Mrs Mills' management of the site throughout the pandemic and beyond.

Our GCSE examination results exceeded their pre-pandemic strength this summer and, indeed, exceeded our own expectations in terms of value-added, which is a testament to our quick re-invention and quality of remote teaching during lockdown. Combined with summer events, sports' days and theatre performances, the end of term was a hive of activity and excitement and well-earned pride in the culmination of the efforts made by staff and pupils alike.

Towards the end of the academic year, we experienced a record rise in admissions and demand for a Mayville education, due to its quality of provision and vision. Having seen the sudden closure of our closest competitor, it is only right that the fortunes of the independent schools' sector are reconsidered more widely. The pressures brought by the war in Ukraine and the subsequent rise in commodity and fuel prices are significant and will likely cause long lasting effects on the sector. Schools will have to be agile in their thinking and deliver exactly what their parent body expect.



Part of survival is adherence to noble traditions but also to adaption and inclusion. Fidelity to the past is never a finished story.

The inclusion of children with additional and special educational needs and disabilities is one of the most challenging and important aspects of my role. Navigating the complexity of statutory obligations, complex multi-disciplinary relationships and the unique position of every pupil demands a culture of humility, commitment, curiosity and care. The quality of education provided for pupils who are amongst the most vulnerable in our society is one of the clearest indicators of the success of a school. In this vein, I am pleased to say that one of my goals in the coming 12 months will be to move the DLEU to a new location and build a state of the art SEND department. This has only been made possible thanks to the huge generosity of a benefactor, who wishes to remain anonymous. The School is humbled to have been selected to receive such a substantial donation and we will use

it wisely, for the sole benefit of the pupils, in accordance with the wishes of our benefactor.

In what is, I believe, a much-deserved bucking of the current economic trend on Mayville's part, I am urgently looking into opportunities for site expansion. There are new horizons and higher ceilings to break through in the quest for only the best educational provision and additional space is now an absolute prerequisite for Mayville's forward journey. With additional buildings for our Senior School, we will be able to create the new post-pandemic face of excellence in education to great effect. The School will nevertheless remain as humble in approach as it always has been, and authentic in all it does.

We have come through so much and now, as a School, we are on the cusp on taking a huge step forward... the future is exciting.

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

Celebrations for our 125th Anniversary got underway with a bang. As a whole school, we took to the stage, at New Theatre Royal, to celebrate. Every single year group worked together as a team, showcasing the very best of Mayville through the years, across four spectacular performances.

On Tuesday 28th June, our Nursery, Pre-Prep & Junior Schools came together to perform matinee and evening shows. Every pupil played their part in celebrating our history, as we took a journey through the years in dance, drama, music & song.

Our very youngest pupils opened the show with a medley of seaside songs and shanties. We visited theatre favourites *The Wizard of Oz*, *Oliver* and *Mary Poppins*, before closing the first act by *Putting on the Ritz*.

Our Taiko drum group kicked-off the second act. We took a look at life during the war, whilst excerpts from *Billy Elliott* and *Matilda* highlighted the Mayville ethos of being true to yourself. Our competition dancers and Junior Band brought the show to a spectacular finale!





On Thursday of the same week, it was the turn of the Senior School to take to the stage for their shows.

Their journey through the years took in musical classics, such as *We're In The Money* and *Singin' In The Rain*, before taking a trip into the world of *Bugsy Malone*. The first act rounded-off with a medley of war-time songs.

Senior dancers brought the curtain up on the second act with a selection of assessment pieces. We then visited 1962 Baltimore for *Hairspray* and stopped-off in County Durham, 1984, to check-in with *Billy Elliot* and the striking miners. Our ISA Dancers, School Orchestra and GCSE Drama pupils led us into a rousing musical finale, featuring our Senior and RSL Bands.

Pupils and staff devoted an incredible amount of time and dedication into the preparation for these shows, which were enjoyed by the huge audiences. We believe that all children benefit from creative pursuits and teamwork. Nowhere was the power of participation more evident!

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Through both the timetable and our enormous range of extra-curricular clubs and activities, pupils always have a wealth of opportunities to extend and enrich their learning.

Throughout the year, we participate in a number of competitions and challenges. This year saw the welcome return of being able to attend such events in-person and pit our wits against other schools.

Our Year 4 (L3) mathematicians took part in the *Maths Challenge* at West Hill Park, with one of our teams claiming second place overall. Dylan in Year 5 (M3) won the *Picture The Book* competition, as part of *The Shorter Novel Awards*, hosted at Kings Theatre. Our Year 10 (L5) Geographers took second place in the *Worldwise Quiz*, after beating Portsmouth Grammar School to a tie-break question. Senior pupils also battled it out in the *Portsmouth Schools Literature Quiz* at Fratton Park. They were tested on general knowledge and on books by four authors, three of whom were in attendance, signing books and answering pupils' questions. Ava in Year 9 (U4) became the first Mayville pupil to gain the Platinum Reading Award, after reading all of the books on the *Carnegie 2021 Awards* long list and writing a mini review on each one.

Year 6 (U3) took part in an enterprise day. Hosted by Unloc, the aim of which was to develop pupils' potential, through an exploration of entrepreneurship, employability, leadership and career pathways. Working in small groups, pupils were challenged to design and produce a new app for a game product. Key skills included marketing, finance and the ability to pitch their ideas to a professional board.

Our own annual Book Week provided pupils with a host of activities designed to instil a love of reading for pleasure. We were visited by a number of authors and illustrators, who gave talks and ran workshops with pupils. Throughout the week, all Nursery, Pre-Prep & Junior pupils decorated their classroom doors, with a prize being awarded for the most imaginative. The week rounded off with dress-up day, where pupils and staff came into school, dressed as their favourite book character!





Visiting author, Simon Philips, with Reception's classroom display on one of his books



Book Week, Junior Lit Quiz & dress-up



Book Week, workshop with Illustrator Gianne Amparo

CREATIVE ARTS

Creative Arts are woven into the fabric of life at Mayville. Throughout 2012-2022, we welcomed the chance to be able to perform and compete, once again, in front of live audiences.

All pupils are encouraged to discover the joy of participating in creative arts and uncover a new talent or develop an existing passion. Everyone has the opportunity to express themselves, either individually or as part of a bigger team.

School life provides plenty of occasions for pupils to take to the stage, with regular assemblies nestling alongside annual events on the school calendar, such as Harvest Festival, the Christmas plays and carol service, our Prizegiving concert and end-of-year talent shows. Such events also provide us with a chance to share the fruits of our talents and hard work with parents, families and friends of Mayville, in the wider community.

As a school, we compete every year in a number of creative competitions. In November, we took pupils across three age categories to the ISA National Dance Competition. Our Junior Team came first (out of ten). Our Senior Team placed second (out of 15) in the KS3 category. Owing to restrictions on numbers competing, we were unable to send a team for the KS4 category, so Sienna performed two separate solo pieces. She also placed second (out of 15 entries).

Following last year's remote event, *Dance Live!* returned to the big stage at Portsmouth Guildhall for 2022. Our Junior team closed the show, with their performance *Be An Inspiration*. Although they did not place in the finals, they received the Concept Award. Our Senior Team also closed the show in their heat. In a very tough field, featuring no less than four colleges, their performance won praise from the judges and claimed awards for Lighting Design and Fellowship.

In March, we took 19 senior dancers and seven junior dancers to HSDC's *Springboard* Dance Competition. We had a solo, a duet and two groups in the U16 section, whilst our Year 11 (U5) girls went into a tough Over 16 group section. Despite competing against much older dancers, our Junior group and duet both took first place in the U16 competition, bringing home two trophies.



Orchestra, annual Christmas carol concert



Pre-Prep & Junior Choir, annual Prizegiving concert



Junior dancers – HSDC's Springboard U16 group winners



Junior Team – Dance Live! 2022 image © Vernon Nash



Senior Team – Dance Live! 2022 image © Vernon Nash

SPORTING SUCCESS

The year welcomed the return of a full schedule of fixtures and sporting events. Mayville teams did the School proud, whilst a number of our athletes achieved considerable individual successes in their chosen fields.

We took 26 pupils to the *ISA LW Regional Athletics Competition* in London. Well done to the whole team, with a special mention to the following pupils for their podium successes: Albert, Hameem, Blake & Joe (4 x 100m relay), Albert (100m), Joe (300m), Naomi (800m), Shay (100m & 200m), Izzy (High Jump) – all of whom took bronze medals. Millie took silver in 200m and gold in 100m. The following week she travelled to Manchester, to compete in the National Finals, coming fourth in the 100m and claiming gold in the 4x100m relay.

Competing in the *English Schools Swimming Regional Finals*, our Year 6 swim team, Finn, Zeb, Jacob & George, made both finals where they placed 7th & 8th overall, in an incredibly competitive field. Our KS4 swim team, Naomi, Rebecca, Abigail and Lucas, put in a fantastic team effort, with Naomi achieving silver in the 200m individual medley and the 100 metres breaststroke, with new PBs in both races! Rebecca and Lucas narrowly missed out in medals in their races.

On a scorching hot day in the penultimate week of term, we hosted our annual Junior School Sports Day at HMS Temeraire. Individual honours were up for grabs, along with the always fiercely-contested inter-house trophy. The results were as follows:

1st: Cavell | 2nd: Austen | 3rd: Nelson

The sweltering conditions continued into the afternoon for our Senior School Sports Day. Events were competed at a blistering pace, with a number of school records toppling throughout the day. Millie, fresh from her 4x100m gold at the *ISA National Championships*, smashed the 100m record.

In a repeat of the Junior School event, the house competition results were as follows:

1st: Cavell | 2nd: Austen | 3rd: Nelson



Early Years & Pre-Prep Sports Day at Cockleshell



U11 Cricket fixture at Cockleshell



Senior ISA Athletics squad



Junior Sports Day, HMS Temeraire

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Pupils' studies are supplemented and enriched by regular exploration of our surrounding environment. 2022 also saw the first overseas Mayville residential in over 18 months, with a large group of Senior School pupils staying at Château De La Baudonnière in France.

Our *Shine* Junior enrichment programme runs throughout the year, with pupils regularly venturing out and about for *Beach School*, *Mayville at Marwell* or The Woodland Trust Award-backed *Muddy Mayville* (we have just been awarded their *Green Tree School Bronze Award*).

During the Summer Term, we take full advantage of the clement weather and longer days, to venture off for residential stays, packed with activity and adventure. Year 4 (L3) enjoyed their first such trip, with a stay at Fort Purbrook where they learned archery, orienteering, climbing and tackling the assault course. Year 5 (M3) took to the wild for our annual Bushcraft trip. Sleeping overnight in bell tents, pupils learned bushcraft skills, including den building, archery and traditional fire-lighting. They also took to the water on giant stand-up paddleboards. Year 6 (U3) spent a weekend zon the Solent at Calshot Activities Centre. They sampled a range of activities, including scaling the climbing wall, kayaking and indoor skiing; pupils also worked together to overcome the aerial high rope course.

We took record numbers pupils from Years 7-9 (R-U4) across The Channel for a few days in July. Pupils were able to take in the picturesque surroundings, engage in a range of muddy activities and immerse themselves in French culture, through exploring the local sights, visiting markets and sampling new cuisine.

Closer to home, day visits and field trips enhanced pupils' studies in History, Geography and topic work. In a new Junior School trip, pupils from Years 3 & 4 (U2 & L3) visited Little Woodham, to learn about life in the 17th century, meeting potters, turners, musketeers and surgeons along the way. Year 3 (U2) also met a former Mayville teacher running workshops, whilst visiting Fishbourne Roman Palace!



Year 5 Bushcraft residential



Year 6 Calshot residential



Senior Geography field trip, East Meon



Year 1 visit Portsmouth International Port



Mont-St-Michel, Senior Château residential



Years 3 & 4 visit Little Woodham



Year 4 Fort Purbrook residential

RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP

Mayville promotes an ethos of pupils contributing to the wider community, for the benefit of others. Through collecting donations or fundraising for charities, we have supported a number of causes throughout the year. Pupils are also encouraged to use their voice to shape the world of the future.



Donations for St Simon's, collected at Harvest Festival

Senior pupils chose to support Portsmouth Reverse Advent Calendar this year, collecting donations of toiletries, confectionery and biscuits. These were distributed within the community, in the hope of giving local people a better Christmas.

Alongside our existing partnerships in the local community with St Simon's Church and Reverse Advent, Mayville also pledged support to Portsmouth Foodbank with weekly collections of essential items.

In response to the invasion of Ukraine and seeing the plight of those families who subsequently were forced to leave their homes, we organised a collection of essential items to be taken to the Poland - Ukraine border. We were overwhelmed by the show of support and generosity from our school community, who collected an incredible amount of donations, which were sorted and packaged by pupils, staff and friends of Mayville.



Ukraine donations were accompanied by messages of support

Throughout 21-22, Senior School pupils have been actively involved with the Council of Portsmouth Students (CoPS), attending regular seminars and summits alongside other local schools. They have used their voice to shape the future in a number of key areas, including climate change, diversity & inclusion, careers and mental health & wellbeing. As a result of her involvement with CoPS, Evelyn (Year 8/L4) was appointed to the Artswork Youth Board, to 'help mould arts and culture provision and embed strong, powerful and enthusiastic youth voice into Artswork's strategy' and to make 'arts and creativity available to all'.

Under the guidance of Mrs Matthias-Rosser, a group of Senior pupils started publishing *The Mayville Post*, a pupil newspaper which is written, edited and designed during a lunchtime club.



Mayville delegates, Council of Portsmouth Students



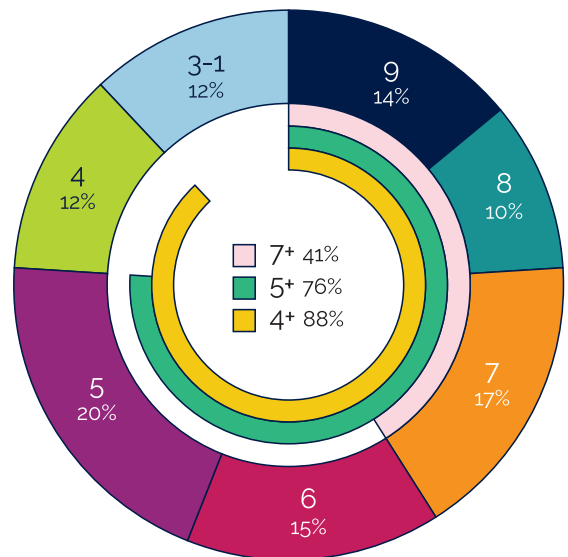
GCSE RESULTS

Our class of '22 were the first pupils to sit external examinations in three years. Having faced disruption to their studies during the pandemic, their excellent results were borne out of resilience and a determination to succeed. These values will serve them well, as they embark on the next stage of their education, as confident young adults.

2022 saw our departing Year 11 (U5) pupils achieve an 88% overall pass rate (90% in core subjects), with 82% of pupils achieving four or more GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English and Mathematics. We saw our highest ever recorded value added percentage, with 87% of pupils exceeding their potential (as measured against expected grades). This translates to ten higher grades per pupil, on average.

In Vocational Creative Arts courses, our pupils achieved a 100% pass rate, 93% of which were at distinction level.

As an inclusive school, we strive to ensure that no child is left behind and that all pupils achieve their own personal best. In 2022, 86% of pupils with special educational needs exceeded their potential. Measured against expected performance, pupils with SEN each gained five higher grades, on average.



88% pass rate at grade 4 and above

90%

our pupils achieved a 90% pass rate in core subjects (2022 national average is 73%)

41%

of all grades were awarded at grades 7-9 (2022 average for South East England is 29.2%)



INTRODUCING THE MAYVILLE FAMILY...

We are a close-knit community, a 'village school', in the heart of Southsea. Central to this ethos is the partnership and communication between school, children and their families. True to the spirit of instilling a life-long love of learning, we believe in maintaining these connections beyond your time at school.

At the start of 2022, we launched *The Mayville Family* – much more than a traditional alumni organisation, its purpose is to provide an enduring community for former pupils, parents and staff, to stay connected to life at Mayville. Joining is completely free and offers a number of member benefits. You will receive a digital copy of our magazine, *The Register*, three times a year; a copy of our Annual Review every October, along with advance invites to both member and school events throughout the year.

We have set up a dedicated area on our website, with a simple sign-up form.
mayvillehighschool.com/the-mayville-family/



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